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No. 1346.

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BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—THE NEXT MEETING is appointed to take place in HULL, and to commence on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1853.
6, Queen-street Place, JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S.
Upper Thames-street, London. General Treasurer.

ST. JAMES'S LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, 15, Clifford-street, Bond-street.
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The following Classes will be opened during the present month.

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French.....	M. Aigre de Charante.
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Drawing.....	M. H. Marks.

The Ladies' Subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum entitles them to the use of the Library, attendance on the Lectures, and also to join the Classes.
Terms and particulars of the Classes to be had of the Secretary.
A Syllabus of the Lectures for the ensuing session will be announced in September.
G. LUCKIN, Secretary.

DR. ALTSCHUL, Professor of the German, Italian, and French Languages and Literature, Examiner in the Royal College of Preceptors, Member of the Philological Society of London, has REMOVED to 2, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square. DR. ALTSCHUL continues to give Lessons at his own residence or that of the Pupils. Schools attended, as usual. Two Languages taught alternately, or at the same Lesson, without extra charge.

MR. HENRY NICHOLLS'S READINGS OF SHAKESPEARE, MILTON, DRYDEN, &c. MR. NICHOLLS begins to announce to Directors of Literary Institutions, &c. that he is now making arrangements for the approaching Session.—16, Howard-street, Strand. Communications respecting Private Readings, with reference to the delivery of the Pulpit, the Bar, the Senate, or the Stage, to be addressed as above.

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2. NATURAL HISTORY, applied to Geology and the Arts.—A. Forbes, F.R.S.
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7. MINING AND MINERALOGY.—W. W. Smyth, M.A.
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THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY, now the Chemical Laboratory of this School, receives Pupils at a fee of 10s. for the Term of 14 weeks. The same fee is charged in the Metallurgical Laboratory.

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H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has granted Two Exhibitions to the School, and others have also been established.

For information, and a Prospectus, apply to TRENIAN REEKS, Registrar, at the School, Jernyn-street, London.

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LIBRARIAN WANTED.—The Committee of the Plymouth Public Library being about to elect a Librarian, Candidates for the situation are invited to send in applications, with particulars of Age, Residence, and past and present Occupation, accompanied by Testimonials of Character and Competency (under date) to the Secretary of the Library, Cornwall-street, Plymouth, on or before THURSDAY, the 23rd day of AUGUST instant.
The application of each Candidate is to be in his own hand-writing, and he is required to state whether he is married or single, and if married, the number of his family.
As in the election of a Librarian, the Committee will give the preference to persons possessing a general acquaintance with Books and other Literary Literature, it is requested that Testimonials may be explicit on these heads.
The Salary will be 70s. per annum, and the duties of the office may be known on application at the Library.
The Office to commence on the 15th of SEPTEMBER next.
The Librarian will be expected to provide security to the extent of 300s.
Notice of the day of election, (which will take place on some day between the 23rd of August and the 13th of September,) will be sent by post to the Candidates who may be selected from the aggregate number. It is obviously desirable that the selected Candidates should attend the Library on the day of election, but this is not imperative, and no expenses for attendance can be allowed.
G. S. EASTLAKE, President.
Plymouth Public Library, 8th August, 1853.

ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE and ART. Leicester-square.—PHOTOGRAPHY.—Students are informed that Mr. HENRY FENK, of Regent-street, Photographer to the Queen, gives INSTRUCTION in the GLASS and PAPER BRANCHES of the above ART, in the extensive Rooms of this Institution. A select stock of Ross's superior Portrait and Landscape Lenses, pure Chemicals, &c.—For further particulars apply to the Secretary; if by post, inclose two postage stamps.

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"Gentlemen.—In reply to your inquiry of this day, I have no hesitation in confirming the opinion expressed to you in my note of April the 28th, respecting your new Maximum Thermometer; since that time the Instrument has been in use, and generally received by the observers of the British Meteorological Society whose opinion coincides with my own,—viz. that it is infinitely better than any in previous use.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant."
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BRADFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL,

AT THE

OPENING OF ST. GEORGE'S HALL,

On WEDNESDAY, August 31, THURSDAY and FRIDAY,
September 1, 2, and 3, 1853.

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Overture ('Der Freyschutz') Weber.

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FRIDAY MORNING, September 2,

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Presented to the Festival Committee by the Representatives of

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In the Morning, the Doors will open at Half-past Ten, and the

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The Judges will then proceed to examine and decide upon the comparative merits of the Treatises laid before them; and the Trustees will at the first term of Whitsunday after the determination of the Judges pay the Premiums to the successful candidates, agreeably to the will of the Testator.

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Letters addressed as above (post paid) will meet with due attention; and it will be sent much more in answering in answer to the mottoes assigned.

Aberdeen, 10th January, 1853.

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At a MEETING of GOVERNORS, held in Craven-street, on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd day of August, 1853, the cases of 18 Petitioners were considered, of which 16 were approved and 2 rejected.

Since the Meeting held on the 6th of July, THREE DEBTORS of whom all had Wives and 9 Children, have been discharged from the Prisons of England and Wales; the expense of whose liberation, including every charge connected with the Society, was 114*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and the following

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1853.

REVIEWS

The British Cabinet in 1853. Nelson.

THE object of this volume is, to give an account of the characters and careers of "Her Majesty's Ministers." A very interesting book might be written on such a subject; but the execution of this one falls below the expectations raised by its title. It is a mere compilation, neither exhibiting wide research nor dealing in graphic writing.

While turning over its hastily-penned pages, we have been struck with the fact that the sayings and doings of many of the Cabinet have been repeatedly recorded, and sometimes criticized, even in that calm world of "science, literature, and art" in which it is our privilege and happiness to toil. The titles and names of Aberdeen, Lansdowne, Russell, Gladstone, Molesworth, Clarendon, Granville, and Argyll have been familiarized to us, though remote from the political world; and without transgressing our unalterable conventions, we can give from our own resources some illustrations of a Cabinet whose members have many claims to the respect of cultivators of "science, literature, and art":—"a triple alliance" which is working wonders under our new and advancing civilization.

The author of this volume might have prefixed to it a dissertation on the nature of "the Cabinet" in our constitution. Its history is one of the most curious chapters in English government. Originally the word "cabinet" was applied only to the room in which the ministers of any State assembled; and by an easy transition in popular parlance it came to be applied to the Ministry. In the latter signification it has been stated by some writers that both the word and the thing—Cabinet and Council of State—occur earlier in Italian and in French than in English history. The readers of Clarendon will recollect the passage in which the historian refers to Charles the First and his secret "cabinet," Strafford, Laud, and Lord Cottington. In ancient times the Privy Council transacted the functions now belonging to the Cabinet,—and Lord Bacon remarked, that the members of the Privy Council were too numerous for despatch and secrecy. Mr. Hallam, in dissenting on the history of the Cabinet, has confessed, in his 'Constitutional History,' that he had not the means of tracing the matter clearly; and nothing so strongly shows how entirely conventional and technically indefinite is the "Cabinet," than the celebrated debate in 1806 on Lord Ellenborough being admitted a Cabinet Minister while he was also a Chief Justice. In his essay on Sir William Temple, Mr. Macaulay has an interesting passage on the philosophy of "Cabinet making;" and in his 'History of England' he writes, while describing the growth of the English Cabinet as a political institution,—

"It at length drew to itself the chief executive power,—yet strange to say it still continues to be altogether unknown to the law. The names of the noblemen and gentlemen who compose it are never officially announced. No record is kept of its meetings and resolutions; nor has its existence ever been recognized by any Act of Parliament."

Bentham was strongly opposed to "Boards,"—which he wittily called *screens*; but though an individual minister may thus often escape condign censure, yet in the responsibility that attaches to all the Cabinet the public have the best guarantee for vigilance that experience has devised. Into this curious question we could go further:—but we must, in preference, proceed to our illustrations of the present Cabinet,—beginning with the First Lord of the Treasury.

Lord Aberdeen is in many respects well qualified for an English Prime Minister. Born in 1784 (in the same year with Lord Palmerston), he succeeded early in life to the Scottish earldom of Aberdeen. His family is a branch of the Gordons, but Sir Egerton Brydges is rather doubtful how to trace it. We have, however, authentic proofs in Scottish history that the Gordons of Haddo have been eminent for three centuries. The church of "Haddo's Hold" in Edinburgh is to this day called after one of the Premier's ancestors, imprisoned there (*temp.* 1644). One of his successors was Lord Chancellor of Scotland (1682), and was created Earl of Aberdeen and Lord Haddo. The present Prime Minister is the fourth Earl of Aberdeen. He was sent to Harrow School at an early period; and from thence he was removed to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1804. Forty-nine years is a long time to look back, but we shall see that the noble Lord has slowly and surely since then ascended the ladder of ambition. Of the early expectations formed of his abilities there is the convincing proof, that he was elected successively in 1806, in 1807, and in 1812 amongst the Representative Peers of Scotland. On the last occasion he was highest on the list of votes,—and in 1811 he moved the Address in the House of Peers.

To a nobleman of talent it is often a disadvantage to commence life in the House of Peers. It is but rarely that the debates there are conducted before an audience large enough to justify those flights of eloquence which, successful in a crowded assembly, seem almost ridiculous before a people of score of languid listeners. It might have been a perception of this fact, felt by many young peers, that induced Lord Aberdeen to turn his attention to diplomatic life. After leaving college he had made an extensive tour, and then acquired attainments which of themselves would have given to his name eminence as a *virtuoso*. His Essay on Architecture drew down on him the characteristic couplet from Lord Byron—

First in the cat-fed phalanx shall be seen
The travell'd Thane, Athenian Aberdeen.

Without any previous training under the Foreign Office, Lord Aberdeen was sent as Ambassador to Vienna, with the purpose of endeavouring to detach the Emperor Francis from alliance with Napoleon. Of the great ability with which he performed his duty there are many proofs in the ninth volume of the Castlereagh Despatches. He was not long in obtaining the confidence of the Austrian Cabinet; and while he was cautious in his conclusions about men and things, his despatches show a sanguine expectation that the Napoleon system would fall. He signed the Treaty of Paris in 1814 as one of the Plenipotentiaries. For his eminent services in his difficult mission, he was made Viscount Gordon in the English peerage.

Many persons have been often surprised at the long interval between 1815 and 1828 having elapsed before Lord Aberdeen was again placed in high office. The circumstance can easily be explained. His aptitude was for foreign affairs; and it could not be supposed that while Castlereagh and Canning lived, the Liverpool Cabinet would raise the Earl of Aberdeen to the station to which he was soon appointed on the formation of the Wellington Ministry. After his embassy to Vienna, and his services there, the noble Lord did not care for any "subordinate" department. With highly cultivated mind, and with many intellectual resources, he enjoyed the lettered life of a scholar. About thirty years ago he purchased Argyll House from the ducal family of that title:—a spot associated in fancy

with the pathetic interview in 'The Heart of Mid-Lothian' between Jeanie Deans and the Duke of Argyll. In 1812 he was elected President of the Society of British Antiquaries,—an office which he resigned in 1846:—he is still one of the Directors of the British Institution.

From the time when, in 1828, Lord Aberdeen went to the Foreign Office, he has been accepted as the expositor of British Conservative views on the Peace of Europe. Without offering any opinion on the propriety of the policy identified with his name, it may be fairly characterized as deferring to prescription rather than to progress. The essential *forte* of the Earl of Aberdeen is, his complete knowledge of the *personnel* of the Courts of Europe, and his acquaintance with the tone of thought prevailing in their cabinets. His temper is undisturbed by partizanship. He is not a system-monger in his views of foreign affairs,—and is not carried away by the love of theory. Like the Duke of Wellington, he has strong feelings on the inapplicability of the popular system of government to some of the races in Europe whose impassioned spirit hurries them to excesses. With his fame associated with the last settlement of Europe, he has a personal interest in the maintenance of peace,—and his advent to the Premiership of England is a favourable augury against the horrors of war.

Of a spare figure, with a cold manner savouring of the official formalist, Lord Aberdeen is not calculated to lead in debate,—yet there is a judicial gravity in his style. His views are always lucid—expressed in correct diction,—and his argument is consecutive. His vast experience, his prolonged and confidential intercourse with his friends Wellington and Peel, his extensive attainments, and the peculiar calmness of his nature, give to his opinion that moral authority in the councils of his sovereign which men of greater genius but less discretion never could attain. By the command of his Royal Mistress, the figure of the noble Earl was grouped by Winterhalter in a portrait-piece with those of her two greatest subjects—the Great Duke and the renowned "Member for Tamworth." This compliment from the Court was marked and emphatic; and in accordance with it was the deference paid to Lord Aberdeen by the members of the present Cabinet. Rare must be the qualities of the Minister under whom such statesmen as Lord John Russell, Lords Palmerston and Clarendon, Sir James Graham, and others can be content to sit, without being obnoxious to the charge of deficiency in self-assertion.

Turning from the leader of the House of Lords to the leader of the Commons, the contrast is striking. If any one in 1827 had observed the tendencies of these distinguished persons, how he would have derided the notion that what Madame de Staël called "*ce grand mot de circonstance*" would now place them both, side by side, as the main supports of a united Cabinet. In 1827 Lord Aberdeen was an oppositionist to Canning,—in the same year Lord John Russell, without taking office under that statesman, assisted him in his difficult position. Even at that early period of his life, "Lord John" had fixed attention on himself, by his intellectual industry, and by the frequency with which he had sought the laurels of the Muse. As a novelist, he had sighed over the fortunes of 'The Nun of Aronea,'—as a biographer, he had told the story of Lord William Russell,—as an editor, he had published the Letters of Lady Rachel Russell,—as an historian, he had written 'Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe,'—as an essayist, he had produced an able dissertation on 'The Causes of the French Revolution,' and an elaborate tract on 'The Turks in Europe,'—

and as a dramatist, he had composed 'Don Carlos.' He had also written sundry *vers de société*,—and had given repeated proofs of being what Moore called "a high-thoughted spirit." We have, as we write, nearly all of his literary productions lying before us:—they are all indicative of a thoughtful mind, with a deep moral tone. Here is a passage from 'Don Carlos,' which reads with interest as we think of its writer's vast success in the political drama wherein he has played so leading a part.—

Valdez. It was my aim,
And I obtained it not for empty glory.
For as I rooted out the weeds of passion,
One still remained, and grew till its tall plant
Struck root in every fibre of my heart—
It was ambition,—not the mean desire
Of rank or title, but great glorious sway
O'er multitudes of minds.
Lucero. That you have gained.
Valdez. I have indeed, and why? I'll tell thee why.

* My appetites
Were in one potent essence concentrate,
I neither lov'd, nor feasted, nor play'd dice;
Power was my feast, my mistress, and my game.
Thus I have acted with a will entire,
And wrenched the passion that distracted others
Into a sceptre for myself.

By birth belonging to the hereditary Whigs,—Lord John Russell by his pursuits and associations became identified with the literary Liberals. Applauded by Mackintosh, favourably "reviewed" by Jeffrey,—he was hailed as a rising planet by the Holland House coterie; and his pen was deemed so formidable, that quarterly volleys were poured on him every year from Albemarle Street. But none of his literary recollections are more honourable to him than his life-long friendship for Thomas Moore. Not many months before the poet died, we received some strong proofs of the genuine warmth of that friendship. We had the good fortune to be present, under very interesting circumstances, at a reunion of the oldest living friends of Moore, whose names appear frequently in his Diary. The conversation turned on Lord John's attachment to Moore, and the testimony of several present as to its sincerity was emphatic. We allude to the circumstance, as it enables us to place before our readers a graphic description of Lord John Russell. We have had access to the personal and political reminiscences of one of that company, and amongst them we find the following elaborate portrait.—

"Lord John Russell presented so many contrasts in his character that he is worthy of special study. He had that native force of resolution—that intrepidity of spirit which in a life of action is worth more than mere talents or hoarded attainments. His outward form was frail and weakly; his countenance sickled over with the effects of ill health and solitary self-communing; his figure shrunken below the dimensions of ordinary manhood; his general air that of a meditative invalid. But within that feeble body was a spirit that knew not how to cover, a gallant heart that could pulsate vehemently with large and heroic emotions, a soul that aspired to live nobly in a proud and right manly career. His voice was weak, his accent mincing with affectation, his elocution broken, stammering, and uncertain, save when in a few lucky moments his tongue seemed unloosed, and there came rushing from his lips a burst of epigrammatic sentences—logical, eloquent, and terse—and occasionally vivified by the fire of genius. Then would his right hand convulsively be clenched, his head proudly thrown back, the outline of his face become rigid and drawn, and the small form seem to dilate, while the cheek would blanch with moral excitement, as the ecstasy of applauding partisans made the walls of the senate ring with echoing cheers. But these visitations of the Muse came few and far between. Always an adroit and apt debater, with a tenacious memory and tact in applying his previous knowledge to a disputed question, he was so deficient in those physical gifts and personal endowments which charm large assemblies, that he failed in gaining that moral ascendancy over others which is the result of first-rate oratorical power. Yet his defects as a speaker were amply compensated for by

his merits as a man. Nature gave him his bold and fearless spirit,—and he gave himself a moral purpose. He had the advantage of being trained to think in the Edinburgh School of Philosophy, and had learned from Dugald Stewart to scale the height of speculation, and contemplate with philosophic spirit the sublime and spiritual problem of human destiny. He was not bred up in the routine training of a Duke's son, but had been cast into contact with variety of classes in early life. He brought into English politics more of that methodizing and theoretical philosophy than has generally been fashionable in our legislators. He never wholly lost the challenging and disputatious investigation of principles which results from the study of speculative science. He would, probably, have never been a man of action if he had not been driven onward by an ambitiously patriotic purpose to link his name in his country's memory with acts of historical renown. A thorough Englishman, he worshipped the constitution of his country in the orthodox Whig creed by which the great Revolution families seek to rule the party attached to progress. By family pride and ancestral recollections being attached to popular ideas, he thirsted for the delicious draught of personal popularity won by great deserts. Political life, therefore, presented to him a scene of æsthetic and sentimental enjoyment awakening pleasurable sensations. For the drudgery of office, for the laborious toil that is not showy or dazzling, he had neither the liking nor the powers. Having no stomach for statistics, he had not the least aptitude as a financier, and was out of his sphere when the destiny of the country hung upon economic ideas, and was best suited for political struggle in an age when he could usefully dissent upon constitutional metaphysics, and preach up the virtues of a mixed form of government, hallowed by glorious recollections and inspired by historical traditions."

Without stopping here to criticize some points of the foregoing characterization, we will illustrate it by some suggestive extracts. The "Aladdin Lamp speech" has been often alluded to on account of the force of its thoughts and the singular beauty of its language. In debating the Reform Bill in 1831, Sir Robert Peel thus adverted to it. We quote from the manuscript.—

"He read at length what he called one of the most just and beautiful panegyrics on the British Constitution ever delivered. It was from a speech delivered in 1819 by Lord John Russell, in which he said:—'Old Sarum existed when Somers and the great men of the Revolution established our government. Rutland sent as many members as Yorkshire, when Hampden lost his life in defence of the constitution. If we should change the principles of our constitution, we should commit the folly of the servant in the story of Aladdin, who was deceived by the cries of new lamps for old.' The language in which Lord John Russell had clothed his ideas in his famous Aladdin speech was as graceful as ever came from the best orators or writers of his party. Often as it has been quoted in public assemblies, it was never read with more elocutionary or graceful emphasis than by Sir Robert Peel, whose silvery tones and modulated voice did full justice to the following words, pregnant with political truth.—'Our lamp is covered with dust and rubbish, but it has a magical power. It has raised up a smiling land, not bestrewn with overgrown palaces, but covered with modest dwellings, every one of which contains a freeman, enjoying equal protection with the proudest subject in the land. It has called into life all the busy creations of commercial prosperity. Nor when men were wanted to defend and illustrate their country, have such men been deficient. When the fate of the nation depended on the line of policy which she should adopt, there were orators of the highest degree placing in the strongest light the arguments for peace and war. When we decided upon war, we had heroes to gain us laurels in the field and wield our thunders on the sea. When, again, we returned to peace, the questions of internal policy, of education of the poor, of criminal law, found men ready to devote the most splendid abilities to the well-being of the community. And shall we change an instrument that has produced effects so wonderful for a burnished and tinsel toy of modern manu-

facture? No; small as the remaining treasure of the constitution is, I cannot consent to throw it into the wheel for the chance of obtaining a prize in the lottery of revolution.'"

The point and polish of the foregoing passage are not less remarkable than its broad political truth. It records in striking terms that attachment to the constitution *as a whole* which has been always a popular feeling in England. Mr. Macaulay has perhaps too often used "the lamp of Aladdin" as an illustration in his brilliant 'Essays,'—but Lord John spoke the following passage in 1819, before Mr. Macaulay loomed over the literary horizon. The lottery-wheel metaphor has great felicity;—the "actuality" from which the trope was taken has since happily become historical.

The essay entitled 'The Causes of the French Revolution' was published anonymously in 1832, and in an octavo volume. It is only a portion of a work designed on an extensive scale. No one can read it without perceiving that the author was a man of reflecting mind and highly exercised understanding. He treats the "French Revolution" as the necessary sequence of protracted despotism and an utterly irrational system of government. We will cite from it a passage that contains the very essence of philosophical Whiggism, and epitomizes the general view of the Conservative-Liberals for the last twenty years.—

"Despotism and democracy, indeed, bear a striking resemblance in many of their features, which was long ago pointed out by Aristotle. Each is suspicious, jealous, fearful, fond of flattery, cruel, capricious, and tyrannical. Aristocracy, again, when uncontrolled, is as much to be feared as either despotism or democracy. * * From the history of the world, therefore, it would appear that will, however general, cannot be considered as a good basis of government. Servile men, indeed, who worship authority, adore an arbitrary king: prejudiced men, who are dazzled by birth and wealth, cringe to an arbitrary aristocracy: enthusiastic or ambitious men, who think or affect to think that there is virtue in numbers, cry up an arbitrary multitude: but a philosopher, who weighs things calmly, sees, in all these disguises, the dominion of a frail, fallible mortal; and refuses to give unlimited power to a being whose mind may be clouded by all the varieties of error, and whose will may be perverted by all the whirlwinds of passion. Upon surveying the history of government, he sees that the raw material, man, must be manufactured into something artificial before he is fit for the purposes of government; that he must be 'through certain strainers well refined' before he can assume the direction of his species. It is for this reason that all the most applauded governments,—Sparta, Rome, England, Holland,—have been formed upon the principle of mutual control. It is by dividing power among different orders and classes; by multiplying forms and privileges; by giving the people an attachment to settled rules of proceeding, and a habit of loving justice; by filtering the turbid current of popular opinion through various modes of deliberation and of counsel; by giving a sanctity to judicial bodies, before which rank and riches bend in submission; and, finally, by opposing a check to every act of passion, whether in chief, nobles, or people, that the whole society is protected against the abuse of those faculties of government, the right use of which produces some of the greatest of human blessings."

And elsewhere we find the remark:—
"Political power is, generally speaking, a matter of permission; and so long as a nation is tranquil, easy, and obedient, it is impossible to say that the power which rules them is not *de jure*, as well as *de facto*, a legitimate government. Restore to the people their sovereignty; they will instantly delegate it afresh; and there are times when a nation is more faithfully represented by the sword of Cæsar than by the senate of Cato."

Whether the thinking of the foregoing passages be right or wrong, none can deny that they exhibit philosophic generalization and trenchant style. It is after reading such passages, that we

can appreciate those two stanzas from Moore's lines to his noble friend.—

With an ardour for liberty, fresh as in youth
It first kindles the bard and gives life to his lyre;
Yet mellow'd ev'n now by that mildness of truth
Which tempers, yet chills not, the patriot fire;

With an eloquence, not like those rills from a height
Which sparkle, and foam, and in vapour are o'er;
But a current that works out its way into light
Through the filtering recesses of thought and of lore.

—Moore was very proud of having written these lines,—expostulating with Lord John Russell on his intention, nearly thirty years since, to abandon politics. He used playfully to allude to them as the effusions of a real "vates."

Ever since Lord John has become famous in the senate, he has been criticized with great severity by eminent persons belonging to adverse schools of thought. He has been quizzed and satirized by Sydney Smith,—and very harshly spoken of in a work of great ability, 'The History of the Peace.' The witty sayings of the late Canon of St. Paul's are uncommonly sharp and shrewd,—but we could no more accept as historical verities his most amusing caricatures of Lord Melbourne, Lord Palmerston, and the present leaders of the Commons, than we could think of taking Moore's 'Twopenny Post-bag' or Byron's invectives as authorities against Lord Castlereagh. 'The History of the Peace' is composed in the spirit of Philosophical Radicalism; and in politics and in theology those who dwell in the same vicinage are often contentious as are borderers. Calvinists and Lutherans have written harder things of each other than either have done of their common adversary; and we have now lying before us scores of tracts and speeches in which the next-door neighbours of the Liberal party have been very witty, very severe, and in many cases very unjust, upon each other. We observe, that the hostile critics seize on the imputation that the essential failing of Lord John Russell is, indiscretion. Thus, Sydney Smith wrote—"It is impossible to sleep easy while Lord John has command of the watch;"—and the driver of the "Derby Dilly" characteristically said in 1834—in words that flew over the town—"Johnny has upset the coach." And so, in the *Quarterly Review*, a well-known hand assimilated him to Lord Byron's ancestor who never went to sea but in a storm—the "foul weather Jack" of nautical annals;—the allusion being probably suggested by the famous "Channel Fleet" witticism. At this point it is interesting to turn to Moore's lines, and see how the ideal of the poet converts into heroism what the critics on Lord John have called "rashness."—

With a spirit as meek as the gentlest of those
Who in life's sunny valley lie sheltered and warm,
Yet bold and heroic as ever yet rose
To the top cliffs of fortune, and breasted the storm:—

—a stanza which illustrates a remark of Sheridan on Moore (as reported by Hazlitt),—"There is no man puts so much of his heart into his fancy as Tom Moore. His soul is like a particle of fire, separated from the sun, fluttering to get back to its source of light and heat."

Although with the political convictions resulting from thought, Lord John is perhaps more of a sentimentalist than any other politician of the day,—the traditions of his ancestry and the story of his famous race powerfully influencing his mind. He evidently feels that—

—the branches that spring from the old Russell tree
Are by Liberty claim'd for the use of her shrine.

—He often argues modern questions in the style of a historical revivalist, and refers as to some scientific canons to the opinions of Locke and of Milton, without taking into account what Locke and Milton might think now with the new social experiences of modern Christendom. The Philosophical Radicals have always cri-

tized him as not being enough of an economist in his political principles; and they aver that he ignores "the principles of social progress" as discovered and established by Bentham and Mill. His 'Letter to the Electors of Stroud' is an able defence from his own pen to the charge of being indifferent to progress. A more highly finished piece of political writing has rarely issued from any practical statesman. Grappling with the demand for more deference to theory and less submission to established institutions, he quotes the remark made to himself in conversation by Sir James Mackintosh—"How strange it is that such a man as Mr. Bentham does not perceive that Utility itself is part of Prescription." We may add from ourselves that Voet on the 'Pandects' has a sentiment similar to that of Mackintosh. The concluding sentence of the Stroud Letter—"I will not lift the anchors of the Monarchy while the signs of a storm are black in the horizon"—have been quoted nearly as often as "The whisper of a faction shall not prevail against the voice of a nation":—a *mot* which attained marvellous currency during the Reform Bill agitation.

Amongst leaders of the Commons Lord John Russell has been signally successful. The post is one of prodigious difficulty:—rightly filled, it may be called the most arduous political office in the world. Its duties must be discharged before a wary Opposition. It demands readiness in debate and resolution in confronting adversaries. There must be courtesy and good temper, without any tendency to cringe or cajole: that fault being very fatal. Often compelled to resist, and sometimes to concede,—the leader must do the first manfully, and the last gracefully. There must be either great talent or vast experience in a parliamentary leader,—but "character" is indispensable. Lord John himself once wrote with significance,—"It is the habit of Party in England to ask the alliance of a man of genius, but to follow the guidance of a man of character."

It is a curious fact, that a Scotchman has never yet led the British House of Commons. Only two Scotchmen—the Earls of Bute and Aberdeen—have been Prime Ministers of England. Two Irishmen—Castlereagh and Canning—have led the Commons; and amongst Prime Ministers Ireland counts three,—the first Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Wellington, and Mr. Canning. As successful "leaders," Sir Robert Walpole and the younger Pitt are unrivalled in the duration of their power.

Life in Sweden; with Excursions in Norway and Denmark. By Selina Bunbury. 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

WHEN we were speaking of the belligerent and insoluble Mrs. Hervey's travels in Kashmir, we characterized the present as an age of "odd female travellers." Miss Bunbury's book does not tempt us to withdraw the epithet,—though it must be forthwith added, that her "curiosities of travel" are of a more quaint and feminine order than those of the Oriental tourist. Miss Bunbury exhibits herself as bustling, curious, sentimental, resolute to see, and not averse to be seen,—in a manner calculated to suggest whimsical thoughts of the impression which her solitary appearance must have produced in circles wherein the travelled Englishwoman is a rarity. Our authoress appears, avowedly, to have announced herself as travelling with a view to publication; and to have "got on" in a fashion sufficiently unique. Let us take an instance at random.—While waiting in Christiania for an eclipse, it occurred to Miss Bunbury that she would improve the interval by taking a run into the country. Never having learned to drive

herself in a carriage, and feeling that a solitary expedition in a strange land, of which she could not speak the language, might be unsafe as well as "conspicuous,"—she met willingly a proposition made by those whom she consulted, that she should hire a divinity student, on the point of taking orders, to drive her and to keep her company. The narrative shall be continued in her own words.—

"The 'to-morrow' came; I could scarcely sleep from excitement. However, having my travels before me, I tried to make a good breakfast. Every book of travels in the north I had read asserted that in these regions one might always calculate on good eggs. So eggs I always have ordered hitherto; in the Hôtel de Scandinavie, however, I think they must be reserved for the use of us English only, for they have invariably been kept too long when presented to me. I was ready, notwithstanding, and had my bonnet in my hand when the Professor came into the room which is appropriated to my receptions. 'Is the gig ready, Herr Professor?'—'Quite ready.'—'And the Candidat?'—'Yes, but—'—'But what?'—'He cannot be got into it.'—'Got in! How?'—'He is to big. He could not be got into the carriage, and he just fills the gig.'—It was true: to crush the Candidat into a carriage would have been a refinement on thumb-screwing.—'No matter,' said the good-natured Professor, 'I have another plan for you, just what you call the very thing. There is a Lieutenant who wants to go to see his family somewhere on the road to Bergen; he is glad to have a free passage, and will attend you.'—Then I must go on the road to Bergen. Very well; it is the most beautiful road.'—'I will go for him now, and return in half an hour.'—'What easy resources they have here!' I said to myself. In three or four hours the Professor returned.—'I should have come sooner,' he said, 'but the Lieutenant has now promised to accompany a blind man, who has come to see our country; and a promise to a blind man, you know, must be kept.'—'Before one to a lady?'—'Perhaps—yes—before one to a lady who has eyes. But no matter, I have another plan, much more suited to you. Yes, this you will say is the very thing. See, now, one of our fairy-legend writers is going to make a tour.'—'A tour in Fairyland!' I interrupted, clasping my hands, and feeling myself wafted back to the far, far distant years of my blessed childhood; 'and I shall share it?'—'Yes, he will drive; and if you wish to draw.'—'Draw! what? The carriage?'—'Ack! nay; he is going to collect fairy-legends; and if you wish to—what do you call it in English?' said the Professor, marking lines on the palm of his hand.—'Sketch?'—'Yes, if you wish to sketch, you can do so, while he collects the fairy-legends.'—'And I will give him my sketches for his legends.'—'No, that cannot be; native art and literature only are encouraged here. The Government sends this Fairy-hunter, and has already paid him for his legends, and sends him on his tour free.'—'Oh! dear. No Government would pay me for mine! We have no Government-train to Fairyland.'—'But you must wait till to-morrow,' said the Professor. 'The Professor had told me that the fairy-legend hunter spoke English; a delightful knowledge this was to me, for I am by no means strong in Northern tongues. Thus, in the hope of using and hearing my own, I was quite at ease, when the next day they both made their appearance. The Professor presented me formally. Herr Fairy-hunter made a great many bows; and as so many bows involve a good many curtsies, I inclined nearly as often. Then, with a last reverence he spoke, in English, and said, very slowly, 'I complain of you much, that you are so disagreeable; but now I make an extra.' I made my last reverence in reply. Such a speech, by way of a complimentary one, was rather startling, and not a little alarming. I looked nervously at the Professor, who, with profound gravity, interpreted his friend's meaning, thus.—'He pities you for being so disagreeably circumstanced; but he is making an abridgment of his book, and, therefore, cannot now make his tour.' I bowed with a sense of relief, and the Fairy-hunter and myself exchanged some sentences which I do not record, as I believe the fairies alone would be able to understand the language. 'I have got another plan for you,' said the Professor; 'yes,

this is the very thing. A teacher of music here wishes to take his wife and child into the country, and one of our opera-voices, who also speaks Italian—which you do likewise—will go with them. They will all join you; but as they must leave their affairs here, they expect you will pay all the travelling expenses. They will bring their own provisions, because there are none to be got on the road. 'That is fair.'—'Very fair, indeed,' I answered. 'The very thing.'—'I complain of you much!' murmured the Fairy-hunter, looking at me compassionately. 'You must, then, take a carriage,' said the Professor. 'It will be quite filled,' I replied. 'Four persons, with Norse-cloaks, pipes, tobacco-pouches, provisions, and luggage!'—'And the child?' added my Professor. 'Ah! I suppose I must take it on my knee.'—'You are very disagreeable,' said the Fairy-hunter, with a look of commiseration at me; but I thought, secretly, that others were still more disagreeable. 'But Mr. Murray's Hand-book says it is dangerous to take a heavy carriage over the hills of Norway, and certainly a roll down among such *et ceteras* would not be pleasant,' I added. Her Fairy-hunter moved uneasily on his chair, worked his hands together, shook his head disapprovingly, and said, 'You must be complained of.'"

Miss Bunbury at last succeeded in finding a guide and companion.—Such strength as her book possesses lies in the record of adventures like the above. She spares neither her own scrapes nor the peculiarities of those by whose hospitable aid she studied the life and manners of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. The following bit of landscape, introduced as a specimen of Miss Bunbury's "touch" applied to other subjects than men and women, reminds us, in its tone and temper, of the Northern vignettes of the Countess Hahn-Hahn.—

"Before the autumn expired, I resolved to visit Upsala; and, accompanied by a young woman, whom I took as companion, I set off by the steam boat on Lake Mälär. It was truly a miserable day, toward the latter end of September. The cold was such, that no amount of clothing seemed to me enough; and there, on board that boat, was a poor little Frenchwoman, the wife of a professor of Paris, without any sort of cloak or defence against it. I gave her part of mine, and made her put her feet at the open door of the fire-room. We sat there and talked French. She told me her husband had come to Sweden in order to acquaint himself fully with its history, politics, past and present state in regard to government, agriculture, produce, manufactures, &c. &c. How long had he been in Sweden? I asked. Nearly six weeks, she answered. This seems, indeed, a favourite time for authors' visits. * * The whole passage on the lake to Upsala was very dreary. It is not at any time so interesting or beautiful here as it is in other parts. The prevalence of that drug in Swedish scenery, and, indeed, in Swedish ground, the fir and pine, and the nearly total absence of what are called here, curiously enough, leaf-trees—that is, all trees that bear leaves in summer and not in winter—gives a monotonous and rather heavy air to the banks, which is only occasionally diversified by the appearance of such fine places as Skokloster. And if such be the case at all times, it may be supposed what it was on a dark, rainy, and bitterly cold day. We landed, however, and got to an hotel, and were given an immense room, with a couple of sofas in it, which at night were opened, and the treasures they contained were taken out and laid upon them; and so your sofa is turned into your bed, and your sitting-room into your sleeping room, with very little ado. And the evening was so wet that I stayed in the house, and tried to persuade myself I was in Upsala. * *

When I went out of the hotel on a sunny morning, I went about and about, and said, 'Where is Upsala?' and my companion said, 'You are in it;' and I answered, 'No, I am in a clean, modern, good-looking town, of new wooden houses, painted, or coloured, in all colours, chiefly red; the streets are wide, very wide indeed; and the whole thing looks as if it had sprung up in a night by the work of a few carpenters' hands.' There is an old orange-coloured castle, partly in ruins, up there on a great elevation, from whence you see interminably around, over one vast plain, unbroken almost by a tree; the

widest, barest, most uninteresting scene I ever beheld. There is an immense brick cathedral, deformed by Swedish taste in renovation, standing in an open space: there are multitudes of men, young and middle aged, walking everywhere about with cigars, or pipes, in their mouths, and hideous boys' caps, of white jean, on their heads, and no other academic dress; whenever they get together in groups, or set out on their favourite annual tours, they sing a great deal, make much noise, and generally act rather rudely. These are the students."

Miss Bunbury passed a winter in Stockholm, as the lodger of a countess,—who instructed her benignantly on the manners and customs and short-comings of English ladies, and who is depicted as being a mean, old-fashioned, prejudiced woman—illiberal in her notions, and not very generous in her hospitalities. The coming on of hard weather is described with some sprightliness:—though as regards pictorial skill Miss Bunbury does not equal other travelling Englishwomen,—to name but two, the writer of the 'Letters from the Baltic' and Miss Howitt. There is life in her picture of Stockholm on a Christmas evening night,—with all the preparations for that merry season, which seem to become more and more elaborate in proportion as we travel northward.—We can also recommend persons curious in that subject of inexhaustible interest, the marriage ceremony, to read Miss Bunbury's description of the wedding of a distiller's foreman, to which she was carried as a spectator,—and which was solemnized, as not unfrequently happens on the Continent, in a house hired and garnished for the occasion. Then, we have the tale of Miss Bunbury's presentation at court:—and an illustration of conventional modesty new to us,—in its comicality out-doing the most outrageous case or specimen gathered by Mrs. Trollope or by Capt. Marryat.—

"As I was unable to eke out the little adornment, which nature herself had bestowed upon my head, by wearing the plumes more lavishly bestowed on other creatures, without being guilty of usurping the honours of matrimony, I felt it necessary to make the most of my natural advantages, by calling in the aid of a hair-dresser. Recollecting having seen a shop of that description, kept by a Frenchman from Paris, somewhere about Brunkberg, I thought there was no difficulty in the way, and asking Fröken to accompany me on a walk, I went out, intending to make this matter its object. The shop proved to be a perfumery and fancy stationery one also. There was a woman only therein, who, when I asked for Monsieur, said she was his wife, and supposed she would do as well. I replied no, for I wanted him to come to dress my hair. 'Not your own hair,' she said, in a solemn and questioning manner. 'Certainly my own hair.'—'On your head?'—'Certainly on my own head. Can I see him?' The good woman looked at me with a face that plainly said, 'What an audaciously hardened creature this must be to make such a proposal!' Then abruptly saying, 'He is absent! he is in Paris! he is very ill in bed!' she turned her back, and looked up at the articles on her shelf. I went away; on our road I saw a sign with 'Perukmakare' upon it; and before Fröken could stop me I entered the shop. There was a man here. 'Is it to make a peruke?' he inquired. 'No! to come to dress my hair.' The poor man seemed to undergo a convulsion to avoid laughter. Then he looked so awkward; I think he blushed. But I looked out, and saw Fröken standing, with a very pretty face of perfect distress, in the street. 'Madame! Madame!' she cried at the door, when I appeared, 'that is impossible that we can ask for a hair-dresser in Stockholm! Pray, Madame, come home; I want to be at home.' I went home with the poor girl, thinking only that it is very unpleasant for any one not interested in an object to go about thus on an unpleasant day, looking for what is not easily found. A few minutes after we entered the house, I followed Fröken to the salong, and found my hostess leaning her back against the kakelugn, or stove, and laughing most heartily; while Fröken

stood before with a half-ashamed, half-relieved countenance, evidently in the act of confession. 'Yes, Madame,' cried the former, interrupting her laugh to speak to me, and taking it up again, 'yes, I am telling her that is not so dangerous,' and the laugh recommenced.—'What?'—'To ask for a hair-dresser.' That there was some infection going which such persons were in danger of conveying, I was now quite convinced; but when I simply asked if this were the case, a roar of laughter echoed through the great room. It brought out some young ladies to see if what was going on were *religé*—a word, I think, oftener used in the Swedish language than in any other, certainly oftener than we use its English expletive—amusing. But to see all the modest faces that were put to the blush when they heard that Madame had actually been inquiring for a hair-dresser! 'Well,' said the hostess at last, 'it is not wonderful that Madame should do so, for in my younger days it was not thought improper to employ a man to dress hair.'—'Improper!' I cried, opening my eyes, as a new light dawned on them, and that good wife's shocked expression of face reappeared before them; 'Improper! why in England, where propriety is very much thought of, and in France too, that is an every-day occurrence.'—'Yes, yes, that is not dangerous; and that I find quite a foolish idea, though it is our custom,' said our hostess, for once in her life giving up the perfection and immutability of Swedish ways. 'It was not so in my youth. No, when I was in the world it was not improper to have a hair-dresser.' The ladies ran away; and I asked the elder one in private what it was that constituted this impropriety. 'That is just what I cannot well say,' she replied; 'but no lady here would have a man to dress her hair; they have women who are taught to do so.'—'But these women are taught by men.'—'Yes, but man kan inte hjälpe det.'—'The fact is it is a lady's propriety, but not a woman's, that is shocked by employing a male hair-dresser,' I remarked.—'It is our custom, Madame; but I grant you I do not think it a wise one, for it was not thought dangerous when I was in the world forty years ago.'—'But how can it be so now?'—'Why,—you know he must go into the ladies' apartments.'—'Yes, but men often do so here, at all times, and sit and talk there with them.'—'Yes; but you know their toilet is not complete when their hair is to be dressed.'—'But propriety is much more outraged when it is complete,' I answered.—'Man kan inte hjälpe det,' said the noble dame, and ran off to the kitchen."

The above extracts will suffice to give the reader a fair—and, we think, a not unpleasant—idea of Miss Bunbury's book. She is not so much wanting in good nature as wanting in taste. She possesses the power of observation in larger proportion than the faculty of selection. A sledge accident which confined her to the house, made her the object of affectionate ministrations on the part of Miss Bremer,—to whose thoughtful and delicate benevolence every one who has written concerning the Swedish novelist bears concurrent testimony.

Curiosities of Modern Shaksperian Criticism. By J. O. Halliwell, Esq. J. R. Smith.

THIS is, in purpose, an avowed reply to our review of the first volume of Mr. Halliwell's folio edition of Shakspeare,—and, in form, one of the rarest displays of egotism that we remember to have seen perpetrated in print. Throughout, it is one long advertisement of the editor's exclusive competency in Shakspeare lore, and one unmitigated puff of his own work. The advertisement, however, turns out to be an unfortunate one for himself. In endeavouring to make it appear that in some few instances, out of the many with which we dealt, we mistook the facts, Mr. Halliwell has argued on such misapprehensions of what we said and intended as are all but incredible,—and positively ludicrous on the part of a gentleman whose pretension is to infallibility as an expounder of disputed texts. How can Mr. Halliwell set up for a Shak-

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speare authority of the last resort, when he is not able to follow the language of a common argument?—Then, for a gentleman who considers himself so far above criticism, and so entirely indifferent to its inflictions, we must say that Mr. Halliwell takes prodigious pains to grapple with a power which he thus affects to despise. There is something amusing in the contrast between his eager assurances that he is not hurt, and the assiduity with which he rubs the wounded places. If he be not hurt, why does he cry out so lustily? We think Mr. Halliwell must abandon his claims to the logical mind. We have gone over his alleged instances; and, after rectifying what he has mistaken and supplying what he has omitted, we find that we have nothing to retract or to alter.—If Mr. Halliwell's logic be bad, his anger is childish and self-detecting. His endeavour to give a personal turn to the argument, and his attribution of motives, belong to that common class of artifices by which convicted blunderers strive to withdraw attention from their blunders. Mr. Halliwell should take better ground. We treated his book with peculiar forbearance:—and shall not be tempted, even now, to its further exposure, by the unbecoming language to which he has not been ashamed to descend.

There is one other feature in Mr. Halliwell's unfortunate pamphlet which cannot be passed over without grave rebuke. Throughout it, he appears to have assumed that the article in the *Athenæum* which has excited his ire is written by one of certain parties whom he sufficiently indicates. Our experience has shown us that it is very rarely the case that these attributions of authorship are correctly made; and gentlemen might save a great deal of ill blood arising on such occasions if they would be less hasty in jumping to conclusions. But in the present instance Mr. Halliwell should have been protected against his error by considerations of a far higher and surer kind than any involved in questions of style. His supposition in this case is a grave offence,—and shows that he is utterly unable to understand the principles on which the *Athenæum* is conducted. His pamphlet assumes our review of his Shakespeare volume to be the work of a gentleman (or of his friend) having a conspicuous personal place in the argument which that volume discusses, and a literary interest in showing Mr. Halliwell to be wrong. It insinuates, in fact, that the *Athenæum* is lent to one of the parties in a literary question. With a gentleman who can do this we decline further argument. A higher tone of feeling on his own part would have suggested that, of all others, the hands in question are precisely those into which his book would not be placed for review by those who have the conduct of the *Athenæum*.

My Life and Acts in Hungary in the Years 1848 and 1849. By Arthur Görgei. (Translated from the German). Bogue.

Refutation of some of the Principal Mis-statements in Görgei's 'Life and Actions, &c.': with Critical Remarks on his Character as a Military Leader. By George Kmety, late General in the Hungarian Army. Cash.

THE account which we gave of this work, immediately on its appearance [*Athen.* No. 1281] will have prepared the public to expect its translation with some curiosity. The version now published simply reproduces the original text; and is fairly executed, without any kind of editorial preface or commentary. This way of bringing Görgei's apology forward may be the best that could have been chosen under the circumstances of the case. Explanations, which might indeed be desired to elucidate certain pas-

sages, could hardly be given without taking a stand on one or the other side of the vexed questions involved in the very nature of the work; and while the means of deciding these justly are still wanting, it is well that the English interpreter should remain neutral,—leaving the party for whom he appears to stand or fall on his own deliberate statements. These, as was said in our former notice, are not likely to pass uncriticized by other actors in the Hungarian tragedy:—and one of them has already undertaken their refutation in a pamphlet, named at the head of the present article,—to be noticed presently. But without more knowledge than has yet been acquired of the whole story of the war, and repeated confrontments of the many narratives and documents which have yet to come from all sides of this troubled arena, it would be rash to undertake the settlement of any of its disputed positions. Their final place can be ascertained only when the lapse of time shall have silenced clamorous passions, and brought to light the materials for an impartial judgment. In the mean time, however, it might have been proper to state, as a fact bearing on the character of Görgei's work, that it has been officially prohibited throughout the whole of the Austrian dominions by a special edict of the Imperial ministry.

On returning to the book, we do not find that anything could be added to the sketch formerly given by us of its tenor and main outlines, on a scale sufficiently reduced for due exhibition in a narrow compass. It will therefore suffice to refer to that notice for a general description of the work; the details of which, necessarily omitted in a rapid summary, are now accessible to English readers. On the present occasion it may be allowed to give a specimen of the quality of the text itself; which the duty of extracting its essential substance forbade us to attempt in the first instance.

A thoroughly characteristic sample of Görgei's trenchant manner will be found in his account of Dembinski. That Polish officer, invited by Kossuth, was made General-in-chief early in 1849. The following scenes belong to that date:—before his removal, at the instance of the army, from the post to which he was restored by Kossuth at the close of the war, with an effect to which the disaster of Temesvár proved a sudden climax.

The dispositions of the new chief are alarming to Görgei. He writes to expostulate, and is thereupon summoned to head-quarters.—

"As I entered with my companions, Dembinski had just finished reading my last letter to him; he had perhaps also already seen the 'Order of the Day,' of the 14th of February, from Kaschau, given above; and probably both had violently excited him against me; for scarcely had I introduced myself and my companions, when he attacked me with uproarious vehemence. He expatiated on his services to Hungary, and the great sacrifices he had already made for the salvation of my country. 'I have laid down the supreme command in my fatherland' to save this poor country," cried he; "yes, I have just now saved your corps, while you do not trouble yourself at all about it. Do you know where your divisions are? No! you do not know! Yet you reproach me. I came to Hungary only on the condition that I should be entrusted with the supreme command over all the Hungarian troops; and the government has empowered me to have you shot, if you do not obey. I have met you with kindness, because I know that it must mortify a Hungarian to serve under a non-Hungarian. But you reproach me for my orders, instead of obeying them! Dembinski was somewhat exhausted by the excessive straining of his voice, and gasped a moment for breath. I wished

to take advantage of this involuntary pause to show him that his orders, so far as they concerned me, had been punctually followed. But he probably attributed to me an aggressive intention, and interrupted me with the question, several times repeated in the greatest passion: whether I thought he had not courage enough to fight a duel with me. Without, however, waiting for my answer, he suddenly digressed to recent events. 'I advised you to be very cautious on your march towards Putnok,' continued he; 'why have you not followed my advice?'—and so on. It was to Dembinski's adjutant, who was present, and made meanwhile unceasing efforts to calm his chief, that I owed at last the opportunity of speaking. I now enumerated all the orders which had come to me from him, showed that they had been punctually followed, and wished to know what order I had disobeyed. As he could make no reply to this, he again began talking of the above advice, which I had not followed. But I reminded him, that disregard of well-meant advice was not disobedience; that, besides, his advice had been quite superfluous, as the march of the seventh army corps from Kaschau to Miskolcz had been already arranged with an eye to the danger which threatened from Putnok; and I finally requested him to send me only orders, and to communicate to me also such as he should think it necessary to give in a direct manner to separate divisions of my corps; but that, once for all, I thanked him most courteously for his advice. Hereupon I and my companions took our leave. I could not on this occasion resist the impression, that I had just made the acquaintance of a man who would be much more in his proper place as the inmate of a lunatic asylum than as the leader of an army. Dembinski's adjutant, a circumspect man, followed us directly, and sought to excuse the unwonted violence of his chief, by representing it as the consequence of my letter, which had been taken as conveying censure. He assured me besides, that Dembinski already saw that in his passion he had given way to unjust expressions; adding that, for these reasons, he hoped no obstacle would be made on my part to smoothing the way for a future *entente cordiale* between us. I declared to Dembinski's adjutant, that, on the contrary, I intended to take care to preserve a good understanding between myself and his chief; but would therefore raise my demands on his exertions in the service of my country so much the higher."

A kind of pacification follows,—the enemy being not far off: Görgei meanwhile rides hotly to and fro, full of anxiety, and confounded by the Polish general's tactics. On the eve of the battle of Kápolna:—

"I was back again in Erlau, expecting Dembinski's orders. This time he spoke with me only upon some measures relating to the subsistence of the troops. But in the further course of the conversation he put some questions to me about the ground and the manner of fighting which were best suited to the troops of the seventh army corps. I told him that hitherto they had learnt only the little war in the mountains. He then inquired what kind of troops in the corps were most to be depended upon. Before, however, I could answer, he said that he believed our infantry, as a whole, could not be relied on, but that from the cavalry he expected extraordinary services. I confirmed his supposition in so far as related to the seventh army corps—the other corps I hardly knew by name; at the same time calling his attention to the fact that our cavalry, though superior to that of the enemy in agility and perseverance, was by no means its equal in numerical strength. Dembinski hereupon assured me, with much earnestness, that he uncommonly wished for a few thousand more men than were just then at his disposal. It cannot in fact be denied that therein Dembinski had something in common with the most celebrated generals. Meantime mid-day had arrived. Dembinski was entertained by a prebendary in Erlau, and invited me, together with the chief of the general staff of my army corps, who had again accompanied me on this visit, to dine with him. The meal was nearly over; we were just adding the best to the good—the world-

"* Dembinski probably meant that which was intended for him in spe of a new insurrection in Poland."

† The translation here does not quite give the sense of the original. The meaning is:—"I begged, once for all, with due courtesy, to decline his advice."

renowned Erlau wine.—when suddenly it was reported that a brisk thundering of cannon was heard in the direction of Verpelét. Dembinski denied it *à priori*, and did so even very angrily when the report was confidently repeated. Having opened a window of the saloon, I had meanwhile convinced myself with my own ears of the correctness of the report, and now invited Dembinski to do the same. Unwillingly he quitted the table, came near the window, and listened; his countenance expressing the conviction that we were all deceived. The repeated hollow sound of the ground, however, was too distinctly perceptible, and too similar to the distant thunder of cannon, to be mistaken for any other sound. From the moment when Dembinski was forced to acknowledge this, his demeanour degenerated into the fury of a demoniac; above all, he bawled for a carriage and horses. But the only available means of conveyance in all his head-quarters was a farmer's cart, which had brought me and my companion—the chief of the general staff of the seventh army corps—from Mező-Kövesd to Erlau, and stood ready for our return. We invited Dembinski to allow himself to be conveyed in our company to the proximity of the field of battle. He had no choice, and was obliged to comply. I urged haste. The poor vehicle might have taken us forward about 100 paces, and we were still within the town, when suddenly a few of the more curious from among the masses of the inhabitants of Erlau sprang forward, and laying hold of the reins of the horses, asseverated in good Hungarian, that it was impossible for them to suffer the general-in-chief to be taken a single step further in such a miserable cart. This would be, they thought—a disgrace to the town of Erlau, nay, to the whole nation. Irritated at this foolishness, I authoritatively ordered the unwelcome champions of the honour of the town and nation to get out of the way. Dembinski, who understood not a syllable of Hungarian, fell into a still greater passion than myself, and assisted me with his menacing gestures; the chief of the general staff helped us in our shouting and swearing, and the guardians of Erlau's honour yielded; we got again under way. Dembinski now wished to know what these people had wanted. I interpreted to him their practical views in reference to the honour of their town and nation; when, lo, he made the cart stop, and declared he would wait till better horses and a more respectable carriage could be procured. I had been very wrong to behave so brutally to the champions of their civic and national honour!—Dembinski, however, very soon repented of his hasty determination; for in spite of the evident speed with which one of the patriots had set off, with the intention of placing his equipage at our service, a considerable time elapsed without our getting sight of the respectable carriage promised us, and the thunder of the artillery rather increased than diminished. From a conceivable precaution we had meanwhile kept our seats in the much-dispensed hay-cart. The patriot with the equipage might possibly delay too long, or in the end altogether fail us. Dembinski and I were seated on a bundle of straw, which had been laid across the racks, and had partly been forced by our weight into the body of the waggon, which became narrower towards the bottom. The thunder of the battle—as has been said—rather increased than diminished. At each new hollow sound along the ground Dembinski started up, but just as often fell back again on his seat with all his weight. These shocks operating upon one side of the bundle of straw under us, it was by jerks more and more pushed to my side, and at last, together with me, over the low rack of the waggon; while Dembinski on his side sank in ever deeper and deeper, and finally so deep that he could no longer sit upright. This situation seemed to me not befitting the dignity of the general-in-chief. I feared that to the honourable public it might even appear ridiculous. The incidental remark of a patriot very close to us, that that gentleman (pointing to Dembinski) must be a very brave man, because he was growing so extremely angry at each explosion of cannon, while he (the speaker) was filled with alarm—certainly convinced me that my apprehensions as to the ridicule were unfounded; nevertheless I advised the general to alight meanwhile until the new means of conveyance should arrive. Already out of all patience, however, Dembinski would now hear neither of alighting nor of waiting any longer, but

wished to continue again without delay our journey in the waggon. Against this the honourable public protested anew, crowded together in front of our horses, and said that the *calèche* would be there immediately. This indeed made its appearance next moment, and thus prevented the unequal contest which threatened to take place between the impatient general and the patient patriots of Erlau. In this new and really more respectable carriage we proceeded uninterruptedly towards Verpelét. But the nearer we approached the field of battle, and the louder the thunder of the great guns became, the more Dembinski's expressions, both in words and gestures, were unlike those of a being endowed with reason. One absurdity followed another from the trembling lips of the commander-in-chief, whilst at one time rowing alternately with his arms and legs, as if he would accelerate the motion of the carriage, at another repeatedly starting up from his seat, next threatening with his fists in the direction of the battle-field, he revealed to us the state of his mind in all its pitifulness. This state was the *moral agony* of a braggart, who having pretended to be a strong swimmer, was now seized with mortal fear lest he should be drowned, because the water into which he had ventured happened to reach up to his neck! As far as I could make out from the mass of nonsense with which we were regaled by Dembinski during this journey it must on this day have been very far from the intention of the Hungarian general-in-chief to give battle to the enemy. At least his oft-repeated exclamation, "This I did not wish yet! It is too soon yet!" mainly indicated this. But if this was the case, then was it in fact by no means handsome on the part of Messieurs the Austrian generals to attack us without saying a single word about it to any one, or even previously asking Mr. Dembinski whether it would be agreeable to him just then!

The sardonic humour of this passage would have been spoiled by abbreviation:—but it has encroached so far on our space, that we must here take leave of the writer for a brief notice of his critic, General Kmety.—The pamphlet just published by that officer (one of the few whose conduct Görgei usually praises) professes to "refute" some of his "principal mis-statements,"—as well as to judge of his military character. As to the former of these tasks, there are to be observed,—first, the quality of the statements deemed "principal"—the most important of which, within his reach, the General may fairly be supposed to have chosen,—and next, the nature of the "refutation."—The matters declared to be false by Kmety are the following.

1. The statement that Görgei on the 15th of December 1848 ordered "the whole line from Presdorf to Presberg to fall back,"—which General Kmety, as having been present on the spot, denies;—three (contradictory) orders, as he affirms, instead of one, having been sent by Görgei.

2. The assertion "that, uninfluenced by Görgei, the army, including Kmety's division, declared against Görgei's submitting to Dembinski's command." On this, Kmety replies,—"I never sent him assurance of unqualified obedience,"—and further avers that Görgei himself both knew of and fostered the agitations against Dembinski.

3. An "awkward distortion of facts," in respect of that part of the narrative "which regards the evacuation of Raab, and 'the so-called cutting-off of my' (Kmety's) 'division about the end of June 1849.' Against this, the General brings to bear his own detail of the operations; including the assertion that he received express orders, by special escort, "in Görgei's own handwriting" to take the march which is supposed to be censured in the narrative.

These are literally all the "refutations" announced in the title:—and they are made by

verbal contradictions only. This obviously reduces the issue to a question of personal authority; which it is not our business to determine. It must, however, be seen that, supposing the refutation in each case complete,—the errors are in themselves neither many nor important:—all but one concerning mere details of certain movements of part of the army for a short period:—such, indeed, as any narrative, written from memory only, of a time full of heat and perplexity, might contain, without necessarily implying bad faith in the writer. Taking every one of these as condemned, the substance of the book, in any single point of consequence, is not touched: while so far the *prima facie* result would be, that if such are all the "principal" mis-statements that General Kmety can adduce, he, at least, is not able to invalidate any essential part of the book.

To test the criticism on Görgei's military character, a professional judgment alone is competent. All that the civil reader can do is, to note how far the critic appears to approach his task in the condition of mind indispensable to a fair judgment,—and whether his charges are themselves consistent with each other. Now, it is obvious, in the first place, that General Kmety writes under considerable excitement,—and with the most decided hostility. He has determined Görgei to be a traitor,—is indignant at his reports of the bad conduct of National Guards and other improvised troops, declaring them a libel on the bravery of the Hungarians, which even the enemy, he shows, allows to their soldiery. As to this, it is established on the highest military authorities, that ill-disciplined and ill-officered militia or tumultuary levies, although raised from a people who with discipline become admirable soldiers, may, and usually do, behave ill under fire:—and more than this Görgei has not stated. Of the frequent misconduct of that part of the Hungarian forces, there is sufficient testimony extant besides his own,—indeed, in the pamphlet itself, General Kmety lets fall an untoward hint on "disordered battalions."

As to the "consistency" of the censure, it is obviously wanting. It is said that Görgei was, in fact, nothing more than "a brave sergeant," (while in another place he is accused of *personal* cowardice) unable to direct a campaign, or even to command on a field of battle: that the great series of successes which distinguished him above all the other leaders in the war were all due to the ability of the chief of his staff; in short, that during a time when men were raised and removed without ceremony, this single general, but yesterday created, openly at variance with the government, severe in his conduct and uncompromising in speech, was kept by mere chance at the head of an army of which all the victories were due to another mind,—and this, too, without any one being found at the time to discover the cheat, or to give the President any excuse or opportunity, which would have been so welcome, for taking the command from the pretender and giving it to the real chief. This, under the known circumstances of the case, seems hardly probable. That Kossuth himself believed in Görgei's skill—and on this ground alone retained him in command—is not contested. The accusation, also, grounded on the Világos surrender, falls to the ground on any other supposition.

It is possible that Görgei's book and his military credit may both be overthrown:—but it is apparent that if so, it must be by attacks more effectual than this of General Kmety's. His pamphlet discovers no talent, and little of anything, indeed, but the emotion of the writer. This is natural enough in an exile, and not unamiable, if he believes Görgei to have betrayed

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his country; but proof, and not passion, is required for historical "refutations."

The Lives of the Poets-Laureate; with an Introductory Essay on the Title and Office. By Wiltshire Stanton Austin, jun., B.A., Exeter College, Oxon, and John Ralph, M.A., Barrister-at-Law.

[Second Notice.]

We have said that our twin authors do not condescend to tell us what our Laureates did in return for their "butt and bays,"—nor what the sovereigns to whom they sang thought of the annual inflictions which they had to endure in the shape of birthday odes and odes to the new year. Many poets sang loud and long:—and as for the attention given to them by our Kings and Queens, since at least the accession of the House of Hanover, Pope has told the truth in his epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot:—

Poems I heeded (now be-rhymed so long),

No more than thou, great George, a birthday song.

—Our first George neither understood English, nor cared to understand it,—his son and successor was equally indifferent,—and King George the Third, if we may take Lord Byron as an authority, had at least a sense of what true poetry should be like, for he has made the King in his famous 'Vision of Judgment' perfectly appreciate the merits of Mr. Pye:—

The monarch, mute till then, exclaimed, "What! what! Pye come again? No more—no more of that."

—Our authors have missed this couplet in their memoir of Mr. Pye; yet it is evident that they were once near stumbling on it,—when they tell us, in the first paragraph of Pye's life, that Lord Byron has observed, with "characteristic flippancy," that Pye was "a man eminently respectable in everything but his poetry." These words occur in a note to the couplet in the 'Vision' which we have just quoted:—where they are given as the words of Byron's editor, not those of Lord Byron. So much for the characteristic flippancy of "my Lord":—who has not expressed any such opinion, so far as we know, whatever he may have thought of Mr. Pye's poetry.

Our brace of authors would seem to have shunned labour with something like a school-boy-love for the easy acquisition of a name. Thus, we are told in reference to Shadwell, that "of his poetical works, the principal are, a complimentary poem on the arrival of King William the Third, one on Queen Mary, and a translation of the Tenth Satire of Juvenal. Much time has been spent in the attempt to exhume these pieces from the public libraries of the metropolis,—but without success; and if they yet slumber there, it would still be a thankless office to invade their repose." Poor Shadwell was treated by Dryden with still greater contempt:—

I will not rake the dunghill of thy crimes,
For who would read thy life that reads thy rhymes?

—But what Dryden might omit to undertake, it was the precise office of Messrs. Austin and Ralph to perform.

To proceed, however, with other examples of "shirking" the very work which they professedly undertook to accomplish. "Any detailed account of Tate's laureate odes," we are told, "would be superfluous. They are very numerous, and may be found in the Library of the British Museum, with much pomp of large type and gorgeous binding." So, of Pye's productions:—"His works are very voluminous, and form a goodly list catalogued precisely in Watt's 'Bibliotheca Britannica.' They are many of them to be found in the British Museum, in libraries, at country-houses, and to be picked up at book-stalls." What precise and valuable information! Surely Messrs. Austin and Ralph's

readers must be very thankful to them for the general reference to the Library of the British Museum—to Chatsworth, Althorp—Mr. Crossley's library—and the stalls in White-chapel or Wardour Street. This is just as much as saying—"If you want to know more than we have told you of the productions of our Laureates—if you want to exhume their labours—consult Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue, or take a return ticket on the Great Western, and pass a day or two in the Bodleian. If these fail (or if 'further particulars' are required), write to Mr. Crossley."

We have already had occasion to observe, that Ben Jonson was not an idle or ungrateful poet:—thus we find among what Messrs. Austin and Ralph entitle his 'Lumber' many short poems of compliment and gratitude,— "tributes of duty," as Gifford calls them—but more valuable in our opinion for the biographical information which they supply than for the poetry which they may be said to contain. Ben was often happy, however. Thus:—

Great Charles, among the holy gifts of grace

Annexed to thy person and thy place,

'Tis not enough (thy piety is such)

To cure the call'd king's evil with thy touch;

But thou wilt yet a kingly mastery try,

To cure the poet's evil, poverty.

—The Household fell into arrears in those days with the delivery of their wine from the royal cellar:—an arrear not at all to the liking of the poet,—who vented his dislike in verse. When at length he had obtained his tierce—as he did by expostulatory epigrams—he sang as only Ben could sing. Witness 'An Epigram Anniversary' to King Charles the First on his birthday:—

This is King Charles his day. Speak it thou, Tower,

Unto the ships, and they from tier to tier,

Discharge it 'bout the island in an hour,

As loud as thunder and as swift as fire.

Let Ireland meet it out at sea, half-way,

Repeating all Great Britain's joy, and more,

Adding her own glad thinking, at this day,

Like Echo playing from the other shore.

What drums or trumpets, or great ordnance can,

The poetry of steeples, with the bells,

Three kingdoms' mirth, in light and airy man,

Made lighter with the wine. All noises else,

As bonfires, rockets, fireworks, with the shouts

That cry with gladness which their hearts would pay,

Had they but grace of thinking, at these routs,

On the often coming of this holy-day:

And ever close the burden of the song,

Still to have such a Charles, but this Charles long.

The wish is great, but where the Prince is such,

What prayers, people, can you think too much?

—Nor was the Queen (Henrietta Maria) allowed to escape. Here is an 'Epigram' on one of her confinements:—

Hail, Mary, full of grace! it once was said,

And by an angel, to the blessed'st maid,

The Mother of our Lord: why may not I,

Without profaneness, as a poet, cry,

Hail, Mary, full of honours! to my queen,

The mother of our prince? When was there seen,

Except the joy that the first Mary brought,

Whereby the safety of mankind was wrought,

So general a gladness to an isle,

To make the hearts of a whole nation smile,

As in this prince? let it be lawful, so

To compare small with great, as still we owe

Glory to God. Then hail to Mary! spring

Of so much safety to the realm and King!

—With Ben commenced the annual custom—not recognized, however, by several of his successors—of writing Birthday Odes; and it must be owned that he set an example of bad poetry as well:—witness a verse of 'An Ode or Song of all the Muses in celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday, 1630.'—

Up, public joy, remember

This sixteenth of November,

Some brave uncommon way;

And though the parish-steeples

Be silent to the people,

Ring, show it holy-day.

Sir William Davenant was not a less prolific Laureate than his predecessor Jonson. Davenant was fond of singing the praises of Henrietta Maria; and he has at least produced a couplet which no one who has once heard it will readily forget:—

Kind as the willing saints, and calmer far

Than in their sleeps forgiven Hermits are.

He has also Odes to the New Year addressed to the Queen,—and brings in "Old Time" with his "annual glass" after the most approved manner of Eusden, Cibber, Whitehead, and Pye. Nor was he silent when Charles the Second was restored to the crown; his own restoration to the "butt and bays" warming him up into at least two long poems,—of, however, only moderate merit. With Davenant dropped for a time New Year's gifts to the king and queen in the shape of odes and other congratulatory forms of verse:—Dryden (his successor) has as Laureate no such complimentary poems to Charles the Second or to Catherine of Braganza. Charles gave his Laureate 'The Medal' as a subject for a poem, and we know how ably "glorious John" acquitted himself on the occasion. But Dryden, too, was grateful:—for, his two Court poems, or poems written officially as Laureate, —'Threnodia Augustalis' and 'Britannia Rediviva,'—are not common testimonies of poetic sensibility. In the former, a Funeral Pindaric, he laments the death of Charles the Second,—and in the latter, a poem in his own favourite measure, he sings the birth of the Old Pretender.

It would be an easy task, were we really writing what Messrs. Austin and Ralph undertook to write, to instance by illustration what each Laureate sang in succession by way of ode to the new year or poem to the reigning monarch on his birthday. We can assure our authors, for instance, that some at least of Shadwell's labours—those labours which gained him the laurel—may be found with very little trouble in the great library under Mr. Panizzi's care. Some of Tate's undramatic productions our authors may probably have seen:—though there is sufficient evidence to lead to the belief that even the few which they have seen have been looked into with a careless and a hasty eye. "Tate's poor page" and "the wild limbo of our Father Tate" have been made immortal by Pope; and Tate's own name—

And own elate

That nine such poets more than make a Tate—

is as enduringly commemorated by the same great poet. But no allusion whatever to such contemptuous invective is to be found in the life of Tate as here written.

The works of Rowe may be seen in every library of any consequence; and therefore his five odes and his one song—the whole, we believe, of his Laureate labours—need hardly detain us. They might, however, have detained Messrs. Austin and Ralph with advantage; as Rowe seems to have been the first Laureate who set the example of never allowing a year to go by without an ode or song to the King on his birthday, an ode to the year, or an ode to Father Thames. Nay, more than this,—he seems to have been in every sense of the word the laureate father of Colley Cibber. Of Eusden, in his capacity as flatterer, our authors give us no taste whatever; but they are again satisfied with referring to the British Museum,—as if consulting Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue were a real treat to every curious inquirer. Nor do they condescend to tell us in what way Eusden is likely to live. Surely, lines like these should have found a place in a life of Eusden, however brief:—

Like Journals, Odes, and such forgotten things
As Eusden, Philips, Settle writ of kings.

She saw old Prynne in restless Daniel shine,
And Eusden eke out Blackmore's endless line.

Beneath his reign shall Eusden wear the bays,
Cibber preside Lord Chancellor of Plays.

Know Eusden thirsts no more for sack or praise,
He sleeps among the dull of ancient days.

Such quotations to our thinking must have proved attractive to any other writers than Messrs. Austin and Ralph. Then again, in addition to the Cibber omissions referred to in our former article, why is there no allusion whatever

to be found in Cibber's life, as here written, to Dr. Johnson's early and contemptuous epigram on Colley—bearing as it does directly upon him as Laureate?—

Augustus still survives in Maro's strain,
And Spenser's verse prolongs Eliza's reign;
Great George's acts let tuneful Cibber sing,
For Nature formed the poet for the King.

We have hinted already that there are several excellent parodies to be found of Cibber's odes:—indeed the critics of that time took much pleasure in laughing at Colley's twin productions for the year. They well deserved to be laughed at. It would seem, for instance, impossible to parody such stuff as this:—

Around the royal table spread,
See how the beauteous branches shine!
Sprung from the fertile genial bed
Of glorious George and Caroline.

While heaven with bounteous hand
Has so enriched her store;
When shall this promis'd land
In royal heirs be poor?

All we can further ask, or heaven bestow,
Is, that we long this happiness may know.

—The ode in which this trash is to be found commenced "Let there be light." This was too suggestive for malice not to have "a lick at the Laureate:"—e. g.—

On the Laureate's last Ode.

Let there be light, th' Almighty said:
A blazing glory shines;
And o'er the universe was spread,
Except on Cibber's lines.

Unaided by this grant, we find
Our bard: and thence 'tis plain,
Chaos and Darkness were assigned
To sleep in Colley's brain.

One spark of light received had he,
We might indeed be sure,
The dullest Laureate ne'er could be
So palpably obscure.

Ye critics, then, blame not the wight,
Nor let ill-words be given;
Since he has lent you all the light
He e'er received from Heaven.

We turned to this volume—in vain, of course—for something unknown to us about Isaac Hawkins Browne's famous parody of one of Cibber's odes in his admirable 'Pipe of Tobacco.' The imitation commences—

Old Battle-Array big with horror is fled,
And olive-rob'd Peace again lifts up his head.

That great writer Richardus Aristarchus alludes sarcastically to 'Old Battle-Array';—but not a word of Browne, or Richardus Aristarchus, or of 'Old Battle-Array,' is to be found in the life of Cibber as here written. 'Old Battle-Array' was the source of infinite merriment at the time; and it surely behoved a biographer of the Poets Laureate to tell us in what manner it was first introduced into our Laureate poetry. When we are next at the Museum we shall take occasion to ascertain the circumstance for our own satisfaction:—but Messrs. Austin and Ralph should have saved us the necessity for such inquiry.

To Cibber succeeded Whitehead, who had some sparks of talent; and then came Tom Warton,—who was really a man of genius. And here we must say a word to prevent misapprehension. In the allusion which we made in our article on this volume last week, we are made, by an error of the press, to say that our twin-authors have "erroneously" dubbed Warton the Reverend. Our own word was *ostentatiously*;—and our meaning in its use was this.—As Warton was almost invariably called, then and since, Tom Warton—never using the clerical prefix even on his own title-pages,—it seemed to us, that this mode of naming him involved an unnecessary display of a very small and commonplace piece of erudition in a book so deficient in research of a more substantial kind. "Erroneous" as regards the *fact*, the assignment of the title Reverend certainly is not. We suspect, therefore, that should Charles Churchill's Life ever fall in the way of our twin

authors, we shall have the title Reverend ostentatiously paraded as a fit prefix to the name of the author of 'The Rosciad.'

In no one of all the thirteen lives affected to be treated in this volume has there been given a single atom of new information. The task of the authors has been, to dilute the labours of previous writers, and to eke out their skeleton materials with remarks not distinguished by any knowledge of human nature or any fine sense of the essential beauties of English poetry. If we turn again to the first life in this volume, to the very first sentence in it, what do we meet?—the assertion, that "the life of Jonson has never been given to the public in the form in which it is now presented." We think not:—but this life of Jonson has been written in evident ignorance of the facts, that Mr. Dyce has published an annotated edition of 'Gifford's Life of Ben Jonson,'—and that by Mr. Laing's diligence there has been discovered since Gifford's death a complete copy of Drummond's Notes of his Conversations with Jonson:—or why, with a knowledge of Mr. Laing's discovery, could our twin authors have designated Drummond's Notes as "a brief blundering account"? In what way blundering? Recent research has rather confirmed than negated the accuracy of these Conversations. They are quoted as authorities,—and in no one point that we can call to mind can their accuracy be impugned in the shape in which they appear in Mr. Laing's edition. Then, of Davenant:—there is not a word to be read here about his two wives, or his son, the eminent political writer;—and as for attending to anything like dates, we are favoured with a circumstance which happened "about this time,"—followed by another,—"It was at this time,"—which, again, is succeeded by another event described as happening "soon after this." There is not a word in this life of Davenant about the influence which Lord Brooke's poetry had on the turn of his mind—and on his 'Gondibert' especially. Then, of Dryden:—we will show in two instances how little our authors are "up" in his life. "One of his sources of income," we are told, "was to write prefaces for Herringman." If this mean—as assuredly it must—that Dryden in early life was a writer of Prefaces to other people's performances,—we ask, where are they? Then, the theatres, we are told, "were closed from May 1665 to Christmas 1666,"—the greater part of which interval was spent, it is said, by "glorious John" at Charlton, in Wiltshire, where he met, wooed, and married, the Lady Elizabeth Howard. The fact is, that not only the meeting and the wooing, but the marriage as well, had been brought about and completed in London two years before:—as is evident from the recent discovery of the entry of the poet's marriage in one of the London registers. And yet we are told that in this life of Dryden its authors "have availed themselves of the few more recent materials that exist,"—when the fact is, that they give no evidence whatever of any such intimacy with even the ordinary acquisitions of late years to the minute succession of facts in the life of Dryden. Then, we come to Shadwell—our True-Blue Protestant Poet, as he was called; and nowhere do we learn from the Life as here written that Shadwell had a wife and two distinguished sons,—while the curious story connected with the inscription on the poet's monument in Westminster Abbey is considered too unimportant to be attended to by either Mr. Austin or Mr. Ralph. As a member of the Middle Temple Shadwell deserved to have a full account from a fellow Templar like Mr. Ralph. If it were our business, we could add materially to the information requisite for a

true life of Shadwell. From him, however, we pass to Tate and Rowe. Of omissions in the life of Tate we have already given a taste; but it is in Rowe that our authors seem to excel themselves in successful non-research. Indeed, for this life alone they deserve to be crowned with part at least of the wreath said in former times to have composed the Delphic crown of accepted poets. The wreath, we are told, was composed of vine leaves, laurel and brassica;—brassica being (so our Bentleys inform us) a sort of cabbage peculiar to minor poets and fashionable tailors. Now, this Life of Rowe is a "cabbage" in its errors from Johnson's brief preface to the Poems of Rowe. In the first place, in following Johnson, they are wrong in the year of the poet's birth; secondly, they are wrong—because Johnson is wrong—in the name of the place in which the poet was born; and thirdly, they are wrong—because Johnson is wrong—in the date of the performance of Rowe's only farce, 'The Biter.' We have 1673 for 1674, the year of the poet's birth,—Beckford for Barford, the place in which he was born,—and 1706 for 1704, the year in which 'The Biter' was condemned. But this is not all. "The accession of George the First (1716) brought Rowe," we are told, "an auspicious gale of success. He was made Poet Laureate." Shade of old Doggett and his annual coat and badge!—who does not know that the day of the death of Queen Anne and of the accession of the House of Hanover was the 1st of August, 1714? We may add, finally, that Tate died on the 22nd of July, 1715,—and that Rowe was sworn into the office of Poet Laureate, as Tate's successor, on the 1st of August following.

How Wars are got up in India.—The Origin of the Burmese War. By Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P. Cash.

THIS is a pamphlet for which most people will consider themselves indebted to Mr. Cobden, and written on a plan which affords him a good opportunity of displaying his peculiar strength. As a member of parliament, Mr. Cobden received, in June 1852 and in March last, two bulky blue books of papers relating to the Burmese war. These papers he considered it his duty to read carefully:—and as the result of that reading, he publishes in the present pamphlet a luminous digest and narrative of the proceedings and events recorded in the official documents. Mr. Cobden's strength lies mainly in perspicuous statement. His mind is rather perceptive than expert at difficult processes of reasoning; and when he can keep properly in check that disposition to exaggerate which is engendered perhaps inevitably by the nature of his early career as a public character, there are few men whose statement of a case is more likely to fix attention.

In the present instance, the title of the pamphlet, and frequently the tone in which it is written, indicate the disposition to take a strong party view,—and considerable corrections must therefore be applied. Still, in substance, the statement is drawn up with moderation,—with scrupulous reference to the text of the official papers on which it is founded,—and with an evident desire to place the facts of the question fairly before the public.

We are not prepared to say that Mr. Cobden's account of the origin of the Burmese war is precisely such an account as an impartial person would be content at present to receive and act upon. It is necessary that the other side should be heard:—and it is precisely the chief merit of what Mr. Cobden has now done that the other side will be constrained to put in the best answer which they can frame. Taking Mr.

Cobden's digest as it stands, we have a right to believe two things:—first, that the war was precipitated with great rashness, and in defiance of express instructions, by Commodore Lambert of the Royal Navy, —and secondly, that neither the Government of India nor the Ministry at home had strength, or courage, or wisdom, or justice enough to call Commodore Lambert to account, and to desist from a war which so far as this country is concerned was a pure act of aggression. The facts of the first attack on the Burmese seem to be shortly these.—In the summer of 1851 certain acts of oppression were committed at Rangoon by the Burmese governor on two British subjects, involving damages estimated at 920*l*. For the redress of these grievances, Commodore Lambert, R.N., with two ships of war, was despatched from Calcutta to the Rangoon river in November, 1851. That officer was furnished with instructions of the most precise and pacific character. He arrived at Rangoon—put himself in communication with the Burmese authorities—found them quite ready to listen to his representations—despatched a remonstrance to the King at Ava, requiring in it an answer in five weeks—received, on the 1st of January, 1852, or within the time allowed, an answer of the most conciliatory kind—and on the 7th of January, because some trifling slight was conceived to be put upon a deputation of subordinate officers sent with a message to the Governor, Commodore Lambert on the instant declared peace at an end, and took forcible possession of the Burmese guard-ship. At Calcutta and in England these violent proceedings—proceedings apparently quite at variance with Commodore Lambert's instructions—were in some unaccountable manner acquiesced in. The reasons of that acquiescence do not appear in the official papers,—and Mr. Cobden very properly asks that they may be produced. We do not refer to this question as one of party politics. There are no party politics in the matter; but there are grave considerations of right and wrong,—and grave considerations affecting the national character. As the facts stand at present, we must be regarded as unprovoked aggressors on the Burmese,—as a great power deliberately crushing a weak one—and because it is weak. It is not agreeable to rest under such an imputation; and we draw attention, therefore, to Mr. Cobden's statement in order that those who are concerned in answering it may do so, and at once. Remembering the discreditable proceedings connected with the early parliamentary papers relating to the Afghan war, it is the more necessary that the country should not permit the inquiry started by Mr. Cobden to rest until the real truth be ascertained.

The following passage will indicate the general character of the pamphlet.—

"It is no part of my plan to give any account of the war which followed; respecting which some particulars will be found in the 'Further Papers relating to Hostilities with Burmah,' presented to Parliament during the present session. A war it can hardly be called; a rout, a massacre, or a visitation, would be a more appropriate term. A fleet of war-steamer and other vessels took up their position in the river, and on the 11th of April 1852, being Easter Sunday, they commenced operations by bombarding both the Rangoon and Dallah shores. Everything yielded like toy-work beneath the terrible broadsides of our ships. The Burmese had about as fair a chance of success in contending against our steamers, rockets, detonating shells, and heavy ordnance, of which they were destitute, as one of their Pegue ponies would have had in running a race with a locomotive. Whole armies were put to the rout, with scarcely the loss of a man on our side; and fortified places, when scaled by a few sailors or marines, were found entirely

abandoned. There is neither honour nor glory to be gained, when a highly civilized nation arrays the powers of mechanical and chemical science against a comparatively feeble, because ignorant and barbarous, people. There is small room for the display of courage where there is little risk; and even muscular force has not much to do with a combat, the result of which depends almost entirely on the labours and discoveries of the workshop and laboratory. There is no doubt then as to the result of the Burmese war. Our troops may suffer from the climate, the water, or provisions; but the enemy has no power to prevent their subduing and annexing the whole or any part of the country. But success however brilliant will not obliterate one fact respecting the origin of the war. God can alone know the motives of man. But looking back upon the acts of Commodore Lambert, I must say that had his object in visiting Rangoon been to provoke hostilities, his conduct, in first precipitating a quarrel, and then committing an act of violence certain to lead to a deadly collision, could not have been more ingeniously framed to promote that object. It has been urged in vindication of Lord Dalhousie's part in these proceedings, that owing to the anomalous relations which exist between the Royal Navy and the Government of India, he had no power to compel Commodore Lambert to obey his orders. This is true, and is illustrative of the absurdity of the double government of India. But this should have induced Lord Dalhousie in the first place to have selected another envoy. India has a navy of its own. But where was the necessity for sending a squadron at all, until after a demand for redress had been made through a civilian, or at least a company's officer, who, like Col. Bogle, understood the customs of the country; and the more especially so, as it was the first complaint that had been officially presented to the Government of Burmah? Besides, it was in the power of his Lordship, after the first proofs of Commodore Lambert's rashness, to have withdrawn the instructions with which he sailed from Calcutta. Instead of which, he not only silently acquiesced in the proceedings of the Commodore; but he adopted and justified his acts, with the full knowledge that he thereby shared his responsibility. But there are other and very serious aspects to this business. Commodore Lambert, whilst owing no allegiance to the Government of India, made war upon the Burmese with the Queen's ships, without having any orders from the British Admiralty to enter upon hostilities—and the question naturally arises, to what superior authority was he responsible for the discreet fulfilment of the task he had undertaken? Why, in a strictly professional sense, to nobody. Acting under no instructions from the Admiralty, and standing towards the Government of India 'in the position of the commander of an allied force,' he was virtually irresponsible for the proper performance of the special duty which he had volunteered upon. It must be admitted that a state of things more ingeniously contrived to enable us to involve ourselves in wars, without the unpleasantness of feeling accountable for the consequences, could hardly be imagined. But the 'anomaly' does not end here. The most important point remains to be noticed. These wars, got up by a Queen's officer in the teeth of instructions to the contrary from the Governor-General of India, whose orders he is no more bound to obey than those of the Emperor of China, are carried on at the expense of the people of India. Hence the difficulty of rousing the attention of the English public to the subject. We have an army of 20,000 men now in Burmah, who have seized a territory as large as England, and their proceedings have attracted less notice from the press and public of this kingdom than has the entry of a few thousand Russian troops into the, to us, far more inaccessible Danubian provinces. And the reason is obvious. The bill for the payment of the cost of the Burmese war is presented not to us, but to the unhappy ryots of Hindostan. To aggravate this injustice in the present case, it must be remembered that the war originated in a dispute between the Governor of Rangoon and the captains of a couple of English merchant ships. What exclusive interest had the half-naked peasant of Bengal in the settlement of the claims of Captains Sheppard and Lewis, that he should alone be made to bear the expense of the war which grew out of them? And not merely the cost

of the war, heavy as it will be, but the far more serious burden to be entailed upon our older possessions in India, from the permanent occupation or annexation of the whole or a large part of the Burmese empire. To the latter evil, growing out of our insatiable love of territorial aggrandisement, we shall probably be wilfully blind, until awakened from a great national illusion by some rude shock to the fabric of our Indian finance."

We do not agree in a great many of the doctrines which Mr. Cobden incidentally urges in this pamphlet,—and we do not admit that Mr. Cobden's version of the facts is to be regarded as impartial and correct until those who differ from him shall have been heard. We repeat, however, that both the occasion and the accuser render it directly incumbent on those persons to vindicate themselves and their country from the charges now publicly advanced.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Electra: a Story of Modern Times. By the Author of 'Rockingham.' With Illustrations by Lord Gerald Fitzgerald. 3 vols.—The imaginary narrator of 'Electra' is Lord Glenarlowe,—a hero whose start in life was uncommon, no less than unlucky, being made something after this fashion. He describes himself as having been timid, *gauche*, but willing to love could he have found a comfortable peg on which his love might hang. Such characters are not rare in fiction;—the misunderstood youth is as common a personage in dramas, old and new, as the ill-comprehended female. The harshness, discourtesy, and want of sympathy of the stepmother, again, are threadbare articles in the novelist's stock of trial and torment: but at the commencement of 'Electra' they are served up with a double dose of pepper, mustard, and vinegar. Like other misunderstood boys, our hero was apt to find himself in wrong places at wrong times: thus it fell out, that he chanced to witness a tender though perfectly innocent *elle-à-telle* betwixt his stepmother and a former lover, which neither lady nor gentleman was particularly desirous of having published. Like other misunderstood boys, too, without meaning to be a tattler, our hero was something of a sieve. He told his father what he had witnessed; and his father,—having, it appears, some old grudge against this old lover, and being otherwise dissatisfied in his mind concerning Lady Glenarlowe—made there and then a codicil to his will, cutting off her son by him with one hundred a-year (as a mark of mistrust and displeasure), and to make assurance doubly sure, and to put resentment past recall, thought it proper to die that very night,—leaving his widow under a stigma, and the child of his second marriage destitute, according to the genteel acceptance of the adjective. Such a crisis was hardly calculated to promote anything like "the establishment of an equilibrium" betwixt stepmother and stepson,—and for some years, accordingly, the former proved herself to be as truculent and stony-hearted as Mrs. Brownrigg's self. She pencilled down by day the young Lord Glenarlowe's offences in her memorandum book,—at night, after he was in bed, made him get up to be whipped by herself with a riding whip,—and when he was sympathized with, and when attempts were made to screen him by Florence (Lady Glenarlowe's daughter by a former marriage), she administered such corporeal torture to that pretty, pitying girl, as we have fancied peculiar to some fiend at the head of an old-fashioned Yorkshire school, or a slave plantation. For this sort of savage work, among gentlefolks, we fear that warrant might be found, if the author of 'Electra,' like Mrs. Stowe, chose to publish his 'Key';—but, after having gone through a course of it, the best natured reader will hardly be prepared to hear that a sudden peace, nay, treaty of mutual esteem, if not affection, was one night suddenly patched up betwixt this whipping woman and Lord Glenarlowe, the whipped,—who professed himself still willing to love his stepmother, if she would only let him. Nor was this a mere grimace, the author of 'Electra' assures us;—stepmother and stepson did, absolutely, live on courteous and civil terms

from thenceforth. This was largely owing to the appearance of a good genius, Electra, Lady Glenarlow's sister; who installed herself as benefactress, defender, and monitress of the misunderstood hero,—polished him, protected him, brought out what was good, and shamed away what was amiss. Lord Glenarlow, however, fell in love with Florence,—and his stepmother totally opposed the match:—so that, even this good and great Electra could not remedy every misery which threatened her protégé. Disappointed of winning Florence, our hero, in a rage, at last made love to his guardian angel. On his knees before her, we will leave him; not touching on a variety of episcopal and collateral matters, and having told enough to satisfy the reader that the invention of this story belongs not to common—if it does to modern—life.—The illustrations, by Lord Gerald Fitzgerald, are more curious and courageous than beautiful.

Personal Narrative of Travels to the Equinoctial Regions of America. By Alexander von Humboldt and Aimé Bonpland. Translated and Edited by Thomasina Ross. Vol. III.—The 'Personal Narrative' of Humboldt and Bonpland is too extensively and intimately known—having been in circulation over Europe for half a century—to require any notice from our pen. As example of close observation, the labours of these great naturalists and travellers deserve serious study. These volumes contain information which cannot be obtained from any other source; and as describing districts over which travellers have rarely ventured, they still possess an interest to the popular reader which few modern books of travel can equal. The translation before us is well executed; and a considerable amount of information has been added by the editor, connected with the modern political and moral conditions of equinoctial America, which greatly increases the value of the work.

Chemistry of the Four Seasons. By Thomas Griffiths.—In the *Athenæum* for the year 1847, p. 147, we noticed the first edition of this work. The present edition is printed in a size suitable for the pocket; and, describing, as it does, in a pleasing style, the various phenomena of Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter, it may form a convenient, and certainly an instructive, companion in a rural walk.

Uncle Tom at Home: a Review of the Reviewers and Repudiators of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' By F. C. Adams.—Mr. Adams is a South Carolinian, and yet an abolitionist. He knows slave-life practically and renders it vividly. To those who are not wearied of the subject—if there be any such—his 'Review' will doubtless prove interesting.

The Meditations, and Selections from the Principles of Philosophy of Descartes. Translated from the Latin and collated with the French. With Preface, Appendix, and Notes.—The appearance in a cheap form—in the pocket size of the railway libraries—of books like the 'Discours de la Méthode,' the Port-Royal Logic, and the work before us, is one of the signs of the times not to be ignored by the careful observer of present tendencies of opinion. Of the work itself, the 'Méditations,' it is too late in the day to speak:—the translation appears to be executed with care, skill, and literal truth,—possessing that elegance of writing and limpidity of style which so greatly distinguish the original.

The Bible in the Middle Ages; with Remarks on the Libraries, Schools, and Social and Religious Aspects of Medieval Europe. By L. A. Buckingham.—How far zeal may outrun discretion in the defence of a particular dogma has been evidenced on a thousand occasions before Mr. Buckingham sat down to sustain his singular theory. Historians and bibliopoles are pretty generally agreed that before the invention of printing books were tolerably scarce—that Bibles were few in number; that these latter existed indeed, but that, in the flowery language of our author, they "were few and far between as green oases in the arid waste." Mr. Buckingham, for the credit of his Church, undertakes to prove the contrary:—which he does in this curious fashion. He finds, first, that by the canons a priest was ordered to have "the Psalter, the book of epistles and gospels, the missal, the book of

hymns, the manual, &c.," and in the face of all well-known facts, he infers that they had them. His historical proof that Bibles were common is yet more curious. "When the Normans," he writes, "attacked Nantes in 843, killed the Bishop in the Cathedral, put to death many of the clergy and monks and laity . . . one of the captives, taking advantage of a quarrel among the rioters, seized upon the great Bible of the Cathedral, and ultimately succeeded in reaching Nantes, having saved only this, which the narrator designates 'their greatest treasure,' from the wreck." Surely this passage, if it proves anything at all, proves that Bibles were scarce, and therefore valuable. Mr. Buckingham's reading of the enigmas of the Middle Ages exhibits throughout this singular contempt of logic—a circumstance not very surprising to the reader of a work whose author plainly enough intimates an opinion that the printing press was an impertinent invention of man, if not a direct contrivance of the devil.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abn's Italian Method, Key to, 12mo, 1s. swd.
Aspinwall's (Rev. J.) Roscoe's Library, post 8vo, 2s. cl.
Audrey, a Novel, by Miss Jewry, 3 vols, post 8vo, 3s. 6d. bds.
Bosquet's Fall of Ninotch and Reign of Sennacherib, 8vo, 8s. 6d.
Briere de Boismont, on Hallucinations, 8vo, 14s. cl.
Buckingham's (L. A.) Plan for Future Government of India, 8vo, 1s.
Bunge's (L.) The Preacher and the King, trans. 12mo, 3s. 6d. cl.
Bushman's (Dr.) Burton and the Bitter Beer, 12mo, 1s. 6d.
Chambers's Repository of Tracts, Vol. 5, 12mo, 1s. 6d. bds.
Crown (E. E.) The Greek and the Turk, post 8vo, 10s. 6d. cl.
Cromwell's (Rev. Dr.) The Finger of God, 2 vols, edit. revised, 2s. 6d.
D'Arbouville's Three Tales, trans. post 8vo, 2s. 6d. cl.
D'Aubigné's History of Reformation, trans. Vol. 5, post 8vo, 6s. cl.
De la Girondine's Twenty Years in the Philippines, trans. 1s. bds.
Early (The) Dead, or Our Loved and Lost Ones, 12mo, 1s. 6d. swd.
Edward Charlton, by Ross, 3rd edition, 8vo, 1s. 6d. bds.
Fern Leaves from Fanny's Portfolio, illus. cr. 8vo, 2s. 6d. cl.
Flügel's Compendious Dictionary, 3 vols, new edit. revised, 24s.
Harbaugh's (Rev. H.) The Heavenly Home, cr. 8vo, 6s. cl.
Hewlett's Modern Speaker, 4th edition, 18mo, 3s. 6d. bds.
Johnson's Lives of Most Noted High Priests, post 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.
London to Dublin, illus. imp. 8vo, 6s. cl.
MacLaren (J. J.) On the Impolicy of Life Assurance, 8vo, 2s. swd.
Martini's Italian Dictionary, revised by Santagnello, sq. 8s. bds.
Nasterman Ready, by Marryat, new edition, 3 vols, fcp. 8vo, 3s. cl.
Maxwell's Sports and Adventures in Highlands, fcp. 8vo, 2s. 6d. cl.
Meigs (Dr.) On the Diseases of Children, 2nd edition, royal 8vo, 18s.
Mitchell's Intermediate or Secondary Geography, 4to, 6s. cl.
Morris's (A. J.) Glimpses of Great Men, fcp. 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.
Pearson's (Rev. C. B.) Church Expansion, fcp. 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.
Railway Library, Bookwood, by Ainsworth, fcp. 8vo, 1s. 6d. bds.
Rambles in Java, illustrations, imp. 8vo, 2s. cl.
Rodwell's Child's First Step to History of England, new edit. 2s. 6d.
Rogers's Directory for Treatment of Domestic Poultry, 2s. 6d. cl.
Sargeant's Coloured Pictures and Engravings, 12mo, 2s. 6d. cl.
Scenes and Characters, 3rd edit. fcp. 8vo, 1s. 6d. cl.
Schrevelius's Greek Lexicon, edit. by Major, 8th edition, 10s. 6d.
Scott's (W. H.) Interpretation of the Apocalypse, 8vo, 12s.
Smith's Introduction to Botany, by Macmillan, 12mo, 6s. cl.
Spier's (A.) English Letter Writer, 12mo, 3s. 6d. cl.
Stories and Calumnies on the Collects, Vol. 3, fcp. 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.
Tomlinson's Cyclopædia of Useful Arts, &c., Vol. 1, royal 8vo, 21s.
Traveller's Library, Turkey and Christendom, sq. 12s. swd.
True Briton, Vol. 1, 4to, 6s. 6d. cl.
Tutthill's (Mrs. C.) Home, a Book for Young Ladies, 2s. cl.
Woman's Love, by Rodwell, post 8vo, 2s. 6d. cl.
Yankee Humour and Uncle Sam's Fun, cr. 8vo, 1s. swd.

SONNET.

THE sunshine flashing on the tumbling rill,—
White stalks of bluebells lush upon the meads,—
Winds whistling clearly through the rustling reeds,
And wildly whirling leaves along the hill,—
These were enough for thee and me, dear Friend;
For the great breath in which our words were drowned,
And the grand solitude that slept around,
Gave more than consecrated walls could lend.
But well to see how through this land of ours
The hamlets cluster round the grey church-towers!
O, well to see man's need—how hearts are made
To rise to God, and knees are made to fall.—
E'en London, almost hid from Heav'n with trade,
How the gold cross stands calm above it all!

W. M. ANDERSON.

THE VELASQUEZ NARRATIVE.

ALLOW me to submit some further comments on the narrative relative to the discovery of the City of Iximaya. In so doing I am actuated by no spirit of hostile criticism. The statement of Velasquez possesses great historical and geographical interest,—but its fidelity can be determined only by inquiry. My remarks will be limited to two points:—the internal evidence which it offers of accuracy,—and the weight of authority adduced in its behalf.

To follow good advice, and "begin with the beginning,"—we are told that on the 19th of May, 1849, Velasquez and his party attained the summit of the Sierra Madre, at an altitude of 9,500 feet in 15° 48' N. lat., 92° 15' W. long. But on July the 8th, the latitude was 17° N. and 90° 45' W. long. They were thus by these later observations distant from the summit of the Sierra, whence they first

descried the city, about 116 geographical, or 130 English miles,—and the city was still further. Nevertheless from that summit Antonio saw the city with his naked eye,—Velasquez through a telescope so clearly that he is able to determine the Egyptian style, the Oriental aspect of its architecture, its expanse and outline. Now, the circumstances under which these objects were recognized will be rendered more clear by supposing a party of Cremonese aeronauts suspended in a balloon directly over London at an elevation of 9,500 feet,—and from that position to descry with similar clearness the town of Birmingham, the massive line of shadow denoting its extent, the architecture of the Town Hall, the style of the steeples, and the form of the factory chimneys. From the base of their first position on the Sierra Madre the party took a direct cross-country route towards the city along the course of the river Legartos,—which, according to Mr. Wyld's map, falls transversely into the great river Usumasinta, which thus traversed their course. But as to how the party with its baggage-mules, unprovided with the means of passage, effected this—as to where the river was met—not a single line appears.—Again, as regards the architecture. Stephens, in his 'Central America,' vol. 2, pp. 441, 442, has discussed the architects, the style, the affinities, and the origin of the architecture of the ruined cities which he visited. He argues, that they are not Cyclopean nor European,— "nor is there a resemblance in these ruins to those of the Egyptians." Columns, he adds, are a distinguishing feature in Egyptian architecture,—there is not a temple on the Nile without them:— and the reader will bear in mind that among the whole of these ruins not one column has been found. Yet on his presentation at the court of the monarch of Iximaya, "the city of Cortez and of Alvarado," Velasquez was ushered into a large and lofty hall "surrounded by columns;" and the city was also surrounded by a lofty colonnade for the use of the population! Thus we have Velasquez distinctly refuted by Stephens:—and that on a point not of opinion, but of simple fact. The style of columnar architecture is not in harmony with that of any of the ruins hitherto explored. Now, that some modification of details might occur during the lapse of centuries, some varieties of style predominate—it is natural to suppose; but that the same race should alter their architectural principles and apply them only in one single instance, constitutes a difficulty hard to understand or overcome,—and which throws a cloud of suspicion over the truth of the narrative. Nor does this cloud break away as we advance,—it gathers around us in ominous gloom. For we have next a statement of great interest as regards the children. According to Velasquez—who is here supported by the learning of Mr. Pote—these children were to the Aztecs as gods:—their very form, or deformity, was with them a sacred symbol. But Southey, drawing his details from Clavigero and Torquemada, says in his 'Madoc, The Funeral,' Part I.—

The slaves went last
And dearth, the pasture of the living chiefs,
In life their jest and mockery, and in death
Their victims.

—Thus if Southey be accurate—if this be not poetic, but prosaic truth—these "Pigmy" children—the co-equals and co-ordinates of "the loved of Phthah and the loved of Thor"—had not, originally at least, so high a spiritual elevation. They were not gods to the Aztecs,—but mocking jests. The hand was not upraised towards them in suppliant prayer, but extended as the index of heartless scorn. But it is not by contrast, or by contradiction alone in his statements, that Velasquez provokes attention:—we are perplexed also with omissions. As he quits the Sierra his narrative becomes less and less distinct—his attention is so fixed, so concentrated on the Unknown City, that, it would seem, all other natural objects are lost to his view. True it is, this portion of his journal was written from recollection; but the Don's when exercised is not a careless memory,—it is more than minute, it is familiar.

Let me add a few remarks on the authorities cited in Velasquez's behalf. Great stress—and very rightly—has been laid on those adduced by Mr. Pote,—

since it is impossible to consider his learning without deep respect. But it may be submitted, that the question is not one for suggestive learning alone to decide. We must be satisfied of the veracity of the Velasquez narrative by its own independent internal evidence:—we cannot accept it on the authority of erudition alone. The argument may otherwise run in a circle, since the narrative may be founded on the authority. If we include the Travels of Velasquez among authentic works, on the evidence merely of the authorities of the Past, and these selected for the occasion, —the Voyage of Anacharsis would then stand in the same category on the classical evidence quoted in its support. We know “the Young Greek” to be a fiction:—the learning which it displays enhances its charm;—but we fear Velasquez’ death has deprived him of all present support, and the past inspires no confidence. For, how can we accept the evidence tendered of his companions? Hammond, Huertis, the Priest Vasquez, the faithful Antonio, they all perished;—victims of that inexorable Nemesis which pursued the Expedition! No one remains to testify to the marvellous tale; and the support claimed for it by the incidents remarked by the old travellers Bernal Diaz and Gage breaks down on investigation. It would be difficult, indeed, in the chapter 178 of the ‘Soldier Chronicler’s Discovery of Mexico’ to find a passage that can be inferentially extended to the city of Velasquez. Nor is Gage of more avail, —if the passage which relates to a city mentioned at page 305, visited by Frier Francisco Moran, near a great lake, containing 12,000 inhabitants, be that referred to. We have here no moated walls, no Peruvian manners, no Assyrian magnificence:—alone the Frier entered, unsathed he returned; and the people, though “Barbarians,” seem, in his narrative, to be of that simple anti-Iximayan class “who welcome the coming, speed the parting guest.” And as if singularity at least should be a characteristic of the Don, —true but most strange it is, that whilst Gage is evoked as a testimony for the truth of Velasquez in the *Times*, he is derided for his credulity in the narrative which is issued at the Exhibition! I suspect the Don undergoes some metamorphose; like Cerberus, he looms in the distance as three gentlemen at once:—or shall we say with Stephano “Four legs, and two voices; his forward voice now is to speak well of his friend, —his backward voice is to detract; a most delicate monster!” D.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Pæstum.

WHAT changes, it may be asked, can have taken place at Pæstum, whose ruins were objects of interest before the birth of Christ? Yet, on revisiting it the other day for the fourth or fifth time, some novelties presented themselves, which will not be uninteresting to the antiquarian or to the general reader.

It is a beautiful road which leads from Naples to Pæstum; and if antiquarianism had always such charming associations, it would become indeed a most popular science. I must not, however, pause to dwell on a thousand points of interest, but must confine myself to marking one or two features of more public importance. Since I last visited Labava another field of industry has been opened. The tobacco plant, which has always been grown here, is now more extensively cultivated; and Government has established a factory where both snuff and tobacco are prepared:—*Erba santa*, it is here called, —showing the high estimation in which it is held. On passing through Salerno, I observed one or two silk factories which have recently been established by some Swiss:—as if by the cultivation of the arts of industry they were anxious to wipe off the national blot which is cast upon them by the hired mercenaries who oppose abroad the principles that are supported in their own country. Nor is this the solitary instance in which the Swiss have greatly benefited this country by the importation of arts hitherto unknown, —as Scafati, near Pompeii, can testify. Here they have established cotton-mills, and the character of the people has become completely altered. Leaving Salerno, the traveller enters upon a wide waste trodden only

by shepherd or by buffalo. Dotted about at rare intervals are the conical straw sheds of the miserable wretches who look after the animals that thrive on this vast treeless plain. Sometimes a bare house shoots out of the ground, startling the eye by such an unexpected trace of civilization. We pass a rapid mountain stream dangerous in the winter:—and the temples of Pæstum loom on the eye in solemn grandeur.

An hour’s drive places the traveller close to the Temple of Neptune. We were a large party; and as always happens in large parties, we scattered ourselves about, each according to the devices of his own heart, —but sticking close to our self-elected Cicerone. I visited first the Temple of Neptune. I could not fail to be struck with evident signs of renovation. Two columns belonging to the sella have been restored to support the falling architrave. At the eastern entrance, too, a portion of the third column from the north has been restored. These repairs have been made this year. On the side facing the west considerable damage had been occasioned by lightning so long ago as five years, —and the damage had at that time been repaired. All however being effected with the same stone as that with which the temples are built, and which stone abounds in this country —being the deposit of a neighbouring stream, —the restorations are by no means harsh; and time will soften them down to the same appearance with the body of the building. With the exception of the three temples which are in a high state of preservation, and over which Time seems to have constituted itself custodian, there is no site with which I am acquainted which presents so ruinous and desolate an appearance. The Temple of Esculapius scarcely dares to raise its head above the surrounding nettles. The lizard and the snake on a hot day may be seen basking on the bench of the theatre, —broken friezes adorned with a sculptured warrior, or with a nymph with floating drapery, or with roses —the favourite flower of the Posidani, —lie all around. In short, everything is in the most complete state of abandonment; as if some scourge had swept over the country, laying low all but those grand and mighty temples. As we were walking amongst the ruins of the Temple of Esculapius, I observed something long projecting from the pocket of our custode; —so, extracting it without any ceremony, I asked him what it was?—“Nothing, Eccellenza,” was the reply, “but a ‘pozzo d’antichità.’” I got it from the tombs to sell it to the ‘forestieri.’” Two or three carlini soon made a difference between *meum* and *tuum*. It is a small portion of a little fluted column of terra cotta. The art is late Roman, and the capital of bastard Corinthian, —for instead of the involutes of the acanthus are substituted small projecting heads, representing human figures. It appears that the people in the neighbourhood are carrying on considerable private excavations on their own account, as almost every visitor makes a purchase. The tombs to the north-west of the city seem to be the prolific source whence these treasures are derived; and much is it to be regretted that some note is not taken of it by the Neapolitan Government, as the spoliation is conducted without care. My pretty little column has been evidently broken off recently, and is probably the portion of an *Edicula*. An English gentleman who visited Pæstum during the same week with myself was so fortunate as to purchase, for a piastre, a patera of rare merit and beauty. On bringing it home to Naples he was offered for it immediately, by a dealer in these articles, twenty piastres; but he was too wise to part with it, —and sent it to Crescenza’s, where I saw it, to be restored. There are two groups of two figures (female) each on a black ground. In one group, a figure seated on a lectisternium is playing the double pipe; the other, with arms extended and holding castanets, is also on the bed, and in a crouching position, making attempts at dancing. The other group has a figure which carries in one hand an urn, whilst the right hand is stretched out in front:—the second figure is reclining with one hand behind the head. Similar objects to those which this gentleman and myself purchased are doubtless continually discovered; and no one knows to what extent the work of devastation may be carried. Either let the task of

excavation be carried on with all due care and in a legitimate manner, or let some stop be put to the Vandalic destruction which is at present perpetrated. “Is Government going to do nothing then?” I asked of the custode. “I believe not, until after Pompeii is completed,” was the reply, —“though our superior *does* say that there is some talk of putting on one hundred men upon the ruins of the Temple of Esculapius next season.” It is to be hoped —though I fear it is a forlorn hope —that something may be done.

My notice of Pæstum must conclude with alluding to a discovery recently made there by Signor Belilla:—in trenching, with a view to introduce water into his land, he has discovered a Roman aqueduct. I did not see it when at Pæstum, nor at present do I know any details. —On returning to Amalfi, we had a fine opportunity of comparing the present with the past, —ancient grandeur with modern stupendous engineering. Formerly, in going from Salerno to Amalfi, a man trusted to his legs or to a donkey; now, however, has been opened one of the most gigantic —and perhaps the most lovely —roads in Europe. Viewed from the sea it is like fairy work:—it seems to run up inaccessible mountains, and then with equal agility to dip into the sea, —crosses deep ravines, —runs through orange and olive grounds, —and offers to the traveller a series of ever-changing and lovely views. This road was begun in 1830; it has cost 872,000 ducats in the making, and perhaps the measurements will cost 100,000 ducats more. The expense has been defrayed principally, if not entirely, by the communes to be benefited by it, who have been groaning under the burthen for many years. It is to be hoped, however hard, that they will reap their reward. The works might have been completed earlier had it not been for defalcations and breaches of trust, and a few *such trifles* as are of constant recurrence in this kingdom. The road, however, is at length finished, —and by its solidity, and beauty, and triumph over vast difficulties, it reflects great honour on the reign of Ferdinand the Second.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ATTENTION has been called in Parliament to the want of accommodation at the present rooms of the Geographical Society:—a want which the geographers suffer in common with the members of nearly all the learned Societies in London. Mr. Hume, who had their case in hand, remarked that the Society have 14,000 or 15,000 maps to which they are anxious that the general public should have access. “At present,” he urged, “the expenses of the Society are borne entirely by private subscriptions, which are not sufficient to enable them to provide such accommodation as they require; and what they ask is, that apartments should be allowed them by the Government wherein to carry on the business of the Society, and where the public might have ready access to the maps and other means of important and valuable geographical information of which they are possessed; or, failing this, that an annual grant of the public money should be made to enable them to provide suitable accommodation for that purpose themselves.” He made no motion, but urged the claim of the Society on the favourable consideration of the Government. —Mr. Gladstone replied, on behalf of Lord Aberdeen, that the Government had the strongest sympathy with the objects of the Society, and had taken their memorial into consideration. We have the same sympathy as Mr. Gladstone, and have expressed it on all fitting occasions for many years. But after our long argument, also of years, in favour of the economy and strength to be derived from a combination of the machinery by which the learned and scientific societies generally are worked, it will be readily understood that we agree also in Mr. Gladstone’s further expression of an unwillingness to encourage any separate action in the matter.

The bill for extending the Public Libraries Act to Scotland and Ireland has passed through the House of Lords with almost as little opposition as it encountered in the Lower House. An amendment was proposed by an Irish peer excluding

Ireland from its operation for three months, but it was not even seconded.

At the instance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Heywood has withdrawn from the present his motion for leave to bring in a bill providing for the abolition of matriculation tests at the Universities. Next session the work will have to be commenced anew.

The following is from a Correspondent.—“As a Birmingham man, you must allow me to protest against your generalization in the unfortunate ‘Baroness von Beck’ case. I agree entirely with the view which you have all along taken of this matter;—but I must raise my voice against the conduct of a few over-forward, lion-hunting people, at once presuming and injudicious, being taken as the type of the hospitality of my native town. For one person here who would have acted as the individuals named have done, there are, I am happy to say, scores who, while their own modesty would have prevented their stepping forward to offer hospitality to unknown but supposed remarkable individuals of another country, on the one hand,—would, on the other, have felt bound to behave with all loyalty, honour, and generosity to the persons so received as guests, even if they had discovered that they were not really so distinguished or exalted as they had imagined.—I am, &c.

“BRUMMAGE.”

—We give willing insertion to the protest of any party who, either for himself or for any body of his townsmen, desires to decline all share, direct or reflected, in the disgrace attaching to the proceedings in this lamentable affair;—and we entertain no doubt whatever that the town of Birmingham has many such honourable men. But our subject of regret at which we pointed last week is, that so far as any expression of the feeling of the town towards the defendants in the case is, in any shape known to us, before the public, it is in the direction of support and encouragement; and the matter is so serious, and must carry the name of Birmingham so unpleasantly abroad, that we would gladly have seen that town separating itself by some positive act of disavowal from any implication, before or after the fact, in the unhappy proceedings of a few individuals scandalously outraging hospitality within its precincts.

The directors of the Derby Museum in Liverpool have resolved to open it on Saturdays to the general public. This is a wise and thoughtful arrangement, for Saturday afternoon is now the great half holiday of the cotton districts; and it betrays a growing disposition, very pleasant to see and chronicle, to repose in the idea of a workman's holiday being set apart by him for moral and intellectual enjoyment.

We may remind those of our readers interested in winds and currents, that the Congress of Meteorologists will meet at Brussels on the 23rd inst. The proposed congress has more than once been referred to in these columns in connexion with the name of Lieut. Maury; but we may here repeat in a single line, that its object is, to propose a system of simultaneous observations over as large a space of the earth's surface as may be practicable, with a view to promote science and lessen the dangers of navigation. Mr. Maury is now in England,—and we are glad to see that the great services which his science has rendered to commerce have been gracefully recognized by the trade and shipping interests at Liverpool.—The merchants, underwriters, shipmasters, and others engaged in foreign commerce in New York, have testified to the value of those services by a gift of five thousand dollars and a service of plate.

That Ocean Postage makes some progress, none can doubt who reads the answer of Mr. Gladstone to certain questions proposed to him in the House of Commons by the Member for Manchester. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, the time which had elapsed since the Ministerial proposals for a reduced postage were sent out to the Colonies was too short to allow the several authorities to have sent back formal and final answers. But such as have already come to hand, he added, are in favour of the project of a cheap and uniform rate. With regard to the subject of an inquiry by a Parliamentary Committee into the whole subject of post-

age, he said he had no objection to it on principle. It would be premature, he thought, to make a distinct pledge; but “he thought that Ocean Penny Postage would be a very proper subject for a Parliamentary inquiry, and he should be glad to see one entered into next session.” This will be welcome news to many on both sides of the Atlantic.

Chevalier Bunsen has obtained the honours of a place in the Roman list of contraband authors:—his work on ‘Hippolytus and his Age’ appearing in the new edition of the Index.

A Correspondent writes as follows.—“A proposal to carry on further explorations among the mounds of Assyria and Babylonia is worthy of every possible encouragement; but if such are to be carried on by private subscriptions for national purposes, the least that can be expected is, that the subscribers should have some voice in the outlay of the funds. There are many in this country who might be able to point out promising mounds hitherto neglected, besides the noblemen and gentlemen of the adopted committee. If the Assyrian Fund Society is a Society, let it act like others, and admit members at a certain annual subscription, who may not only have the benefit of the treasurer's reports of doings as transmitted by the committee, but may also be allowed to take a part in the proceedings of the said Society. Donations to be thankfully received, all the same. As it is, the committee only stand in the place of the Trustees of the British Museum, and the treasurer in that of any other recipient of funds from the public, to whom alone he is accountable, instead of to a misnamed Assyrian Society.

“STRAIGHTFORWARD.”

The Council of the Society of Arts have announced, that the Collection of Photographs which they undertook to form to be circulated throughout the country, and exhibited at the different Literary and Scientific Institutions, and Mechanics' Institutes in Union with the Society, is now ready. Institutions desirous of having it sent to them are to make application to the Secretary; and the collection will be forwarded to Institutions in the order of their application.—They offer also to receive samples of the best mathematical instruments which any dealer or manufacturer is willing to supply to the public retail for half-a-crown; and announce, that where such instruments appear to be suitable for educational purposes, they will give them every publicity which their operations admit of.

The *Herts Guardian* of this day announces that, on Friday next, Messrs. Page & Cameron are to offer for sale the site of the once famous Roman City of Verulam, near St. Alban's. The estate, adds the *Guardian*, was recently purchased by the Freehold Land Society,—who refused to give up the purchase, although Lord Verulam offered them a considerable advance on the cost price. “Why it is now in the market,” proceeds the journal in question, “we cannot say, but the announcement of the re-sale is enough to set all the antiquarians of the kingdom on the *qui vive*.”

A copy of the Resolution which was lately adopted by the Board of National Education in Ireland has been printed by order of the House of Lords,—and serves to clear up certain matters about which there has been no little controversy in contemporary columns. This rule we copy as it is in the text, that our readers may judge for themselves to what extent concession has been carried. Rule 8, section 11, which ran as follows:—“The Commissioners do not insist on the ‘Scripture Lessons,’ ‘Lessons on the Truth of Christianity,’ or book of ‘Sacred Poetry’ being read in any of the National Schools, nor do they allow them to be read during the time of secular or literary instruction in any school attended by children whose parents or guardians object to their being so read. In such case the Commissioners prohibit the use of them, except at the times of religious instruction, when the persons giving it may use these books, or not, as they think proper”—is rescinded; and a new rule has been substituted in these words:—“The commissioners do not insist on the ‘Scripture Extracts,’ ‘Lessons on the Truth of Christianity’ or book of ‘Sacred Poetry’ being read in any of the National Schools, nor do they allow them to be read as part

of the ordinary school business (during which all children, of whatever denomination they may be, are required to attend) in any school attended by children whose parents or guardians object to their being so read by their children. In such case the Commissioners prohibit the use of these books, except at times set apart for the purpose, either before or after the ordinary school business, and under the following conditions:—1st. That no child whose parent or guardian objects shall be required directly or indirectly to be present at such reading. 2nd. That, in order that no child whose parent or guardian objects may be present at the reading of the books above specified, public notification of the time set apart for such reading shall be inserted in large letters in the ‘time table’ of the school, that there shall be a sufficient interval between the conclusion of the ordinary school business and the commencement of such reading, and that the teachers shall immediately before its commencement announce distinctly to the pupils that any child whose parent or guardian so desires may then retire. 3rd. That in every such case there shall be, exclusive of the time set apart for such reading, sufficient time devoted each day to the ordinary school business, in order that those children who do not join in the reading of the books may enjoy ample means of literary instruction in the school.”

German journals announce that Prof. Gervinus has been deprived of his title of Professor by a ministerial decision:—he has also been interdicted from giving lectures. These results were foreseen at the trial; and therefore, though they exhibit the continued intellectual perversity of “the powers that be” in Baden, they are scarcely to be considered as in the nature of a new persecution.

His Majesty the King of Prussia has granted the great Gold Medal for Science to Mr. Leone Levi, for his work on the Commercial Law of the World. The Medal has on one side the effigy of the King surrounded by the emblems of Religion, Law, Medicine, and Justice,—and on the other side the Chariot of the Sun traversing the ecliptic, emblematic of the diffusion of knowledge.

Among the papers of the late Gioberti, there are said by the *Turin journals* to have been found two works of literary interest:—one a complete treatise on Ontology—the other on the great topic which employed his life, Catholic Reform. These works may be expected to appear soon.

The gathering of industrial products in New York seems likely to be rivalled in enduring interest, if not in temporary attraction, by a new Society of which that city offers to become the home. As New York papers tell the story, a fine collection of Egyptian Antiquities, made by Dr. Abbott, of Cairo, during a residence of twenty years in the East, had been taken to America as a show—and failed. The owner, it appears, was about to return to Cairo, and the collection to find its way to some European auction-room, when it struck the millionaires of New York that if ever America is to form a museum of history and ethnology this is a good time to begin, and the Abbott antiquities a good collection to acquire. A meeting was consequently called of persons interested in literature, science and trade,—committees were named,—and the preliminaries were adopted for the foundation of a great American institution, should full support be obtained for the enterprise, of the same character as the British Museum in London and the National Museum of Berlin. Of the success which may reward the hopes of the movers in this matter it is too early to form any present opinion; but the local newspapers, to which the idea is new, talk in the largest style of bringing their city into “fit relation and competition” with Paris. “Imagine,” says an enthusiastic journal, “a stately edifice of enduring marble, five times the size of the Bible House, to rise beside the new Park, with Abbott's Egyptian collection in one hall, Catlin's Indian collection in another, a suitable representation of the remains of Aztec grandeur and civilization from Central America in another, &c. &c. It would rapidly be augmented in all departments by the educated and enterprising officers of our army and navy, our missionaries,

travellers and scholars,—and in a little while would become one of the wonders of the world, continually enriching, refining, and elevating New York, and bringing it into closer and more satisfactory rivalry with those great cities abroad which it now equals only in trade and in newspapers." If this be a dream, it is also a possibility. In its greatest time, Florence had not the wealth of New York, nor Venice its population. Yet in all that ministers to taste, the love of beauty, the requirements of mind, the American city is of less interest than many a fourth-rate German or Italian town. That this intellectual poverty is to be the permanent character of the cities of the New World it is impossible to imagine; and the very agitation in favour of establishing the proposed Manhattan Institution is a sign that the will is even now not altogether wanting. A country which can show its Girard's College, its Smithsonian Institute, its Astor Library, may very well, we should think, accomplish a Manhattan Institution.

Closing of the Exhibition.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six, and will CLOSE on SATURDAY, the 27th inst.—Admission, 1s; Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The NINETEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this SOCIETY is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, daily, from Nine till Six.—Admission, 1s.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

OCEAN MAIL.—The additional Picture of CONSTANTINOPLE is exhibited immediately preceding the DIORAMA of the OCEAN MAIL, including Plymouth, Madeira, St. Helena, Ceylon, the Cape, Port Phillip, Sydney, and Gold-Fields of Australia.—Daily, at Nine o'clock, at the Theatre, 1s. 2s. 3s. 4s. Children, Half-price.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.

COLOSSEUM, Regent's Park.—Admission 1s.—The original PANORAMA of LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily from half-past Ten till Five. The extraordinary PANORAMA of LONDON BY NIGHT, from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till Five, and during the evening, several favourite Songs by Miss A. Poole.

DIORAMA, Albany Street.—LONDON AND EARTHQUAKE.—This celebrated and unique Moving Panorama, representing the destruction of Lisbon by Earthquake in 1755, is exhibited daily, at Three; Evening, at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s; children and schools, half-price to either exhibition.

GOLD NUGGETS at the GREAT GLOBE.—A Large Collection of AUSTRALIAN GOLD, together with Rocks, Minerals, and Precious Stones, &c. &c. at Mr. WYLD'S LARGE MODEL of the EARTH, Leicester Square. Lectures hourly upon every subject of Geographical Science.—Open daily from 10 to 10. Children under 12 years of age and Schools, half-price.

THE AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS, exhibiting daily at the MARIONETTE THEATRE, Lowther Arcade, Adelaide Street, Strand.—Admission, ONE SHILLING; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. Afternoon Exhibition, 2 till 5; Evening, 8 till 10.—The Aztecs are the Wonders of the World—a Race of the Human Family hitherto unknown. They have been honoured with a Special Command to appear before HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, at Buckingham Palace, 20,000 of theélite of the Metropolis have taken with wonder on the AZTECS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.—Lectures: By J. H. Pepper, Esq., on PHOTOGRAPHY, with Illustrations, Narratives and Experiments.—By Dr. Bachmayer, on ELECTRIC GILDING and SILVERING.—The LANCASHIRE SEWING MACHINE exhibited in Use and explained daily.—On TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS at Four o'clock, and EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at Nine, the FIRST PART of an HISTORICAL LECTURE on 'THE THAMES,' from its Source to its Estuary, by GEORGE BUCKLAND, Esq., assisted by Miss Blanche Young, with APPROPRIATE SONGS and DISSOLVING SCENERY.—Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s; Schools, and Children under Ten years of age, Half-price.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Aug. 1.—S. Stevens, Esq., in the chair.—Viscount Goderich, Capt. C. J. Cox, and H. Evans, Esq., were elected Members.—Mr. Smith exhibited a large quantity of insects of all orders, recently captured by Mr. Foxcroft in the Black Forest, Berkshire, including many rare species, and a new British beetle, *Noctiluca splendida*. He also exhibited a large Boletus, from birch trees in the same forest, the haunt of the rare *Boletophagus crenatus*.—Mr. Wilkinson exhibited living larvae of *Incurvaria mascula* feeding on leaves of beech and hornbeam, from which they had made their cases, and within the substance of which they at first live.—Mr. Douglas exhibited *Heliothis marginata*, and twelve other kinds of Noctuidæ, taken flying round the flowers of *Sirene inflata*, near Cheltenham.—Mr. Stevens exhibited the very scarce *Pachebra leucophaea*, taken at Mickleham, making the third specimen in two years found in England.—Mr. Bond exhibited some

leaves of parsnips attacked by the same disease prevailing upon the potatoes, which the growers thought was caused by insects; but he found on the plants only a few aphids, &c., which he believed were not sufficient to cause the damage apparent.—Mr. Westwood exhibited a new kind of silk in different stages of manufacture, and the fabric produced from it by the natives of tropical Africa, where it was produced. The raw material consisted of a mass of the cocoons of a moth, probably one of the Tineidæ, closely packed together, and in consequence it required to be carded before being spun. Some of our manufacturers who had seen it, thought it might be advantageously worked in this country if a supply could be procured.—Mr. Westwood read, from the 'New England Farmer,' an account of the damage done in some districts of the United States to the leaves and fruit of apples, plums, and other fruit-trees, by a caterpillar not hitherto noticed, causing serious apprehensions for the produce of those trees.—Mr. Wollaston communicated an extract of a letter from Berlin, announcing the death, on the 8th of July, of Dr. Germar, at the age of sixty-six.—Mr. F. Smith read a paper on *Pompilus punctum*, showing, by specimens reared from one set of cells, found by the Rev. W. Delmar in his garden at Elmstone Rectory, Kent, that *P. petiolatus* (Van der Linden) is only the female of this species.—Mr. Douglas read a translation, from the Stettin 'Entomologische Zeitung,' of a report of a lecture by Prof. Siebold on Strepsiptera, in which is controverted the opinion of some modern systematists that these insects should be classified with the Coleoptera. Mr. Westwood and Mr. Waterhouse supported Professor Siebold's opinion; but Herr Schiödte, of Copenhagen, who was present as a visitor, took an opposite view, and, for reasons which he briefly stated, maintained that these curious insects are rightly associated with the Coleoptera.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

THE THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—ON MONDAY WEEK, August 22, WILL OPEN for a SPECIAL SEASON, OF TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY, for the performance of GRAND OPERAS, when MADAME CARADOI, the celebrated Prima Donna, from La Scala, Milan, and the loyal Opera of Vienna, will make her first appearance in England, supported by a Company of eminent artists.—Conductor, Herr Carl Anschütz.—Prices of Admission: Stalls, 3s.; Dress Circle, 4s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Lower Gallery, 1s.; Upper Gallery, 6d.; Private Boxes, 10s. 6d., 12s., 14s., and upwards.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—During Dr. Spohr's journey to England in 1852, which was reported to be a farewell visit, we declined [*Athen. Nos. 1289, 1290*] to criticize his music. But it seems as if his leave-taking may be an annual proceeding,—and under such circumstances silence would become a contempt, not a courtesy. Now that 'Jessonda'—an opera hitherto known to our playgoers only by the German presentment of it some years ago at the St. James's Theatre—is produced with all the adequate choral and orchestral grandours of Covent Garden, there is no reason why the performance should pass as that of 'Faust' passed, instead of the work being dealt with as we should deal with any other unfamiliar opera by any other composer of reputation when it was first made known to us.

The story, taken from M. Lemierre's 'Veuve de Malabar,' affords scope for descriptive music and contrast in national and local colour,—though it is arranged with small regard to dramatic situation. How *Jessonda* (Madame Bosio), a Portuguese by birth, and the half-wedded widow of a Rajah, is rescued from becoming the bride of fire in solemnization of her lord's funeral obsequies, by the intervention of her old lover, a Portuguese General *Tristano* (Signor Belletti)—the part that *Nadori* (Signor Lucchesi), a young Brahmin, and *Amazili*, *Jessonda*'s sister, (Madame Castellani) take in her deliverance—need not be told point by point; so widely has the work been circulated in the closet and in the concert-room.—Not less universal has been the tradition that 'Jessonda' is Dr. Spohr's best opera. This we cannot think. The music is throughout carefully made, but in no part or portion of it is it dramatic. There is the rapidity of opium in its sweetness,—not the rich, healthy savour of

honey. There is the whine of complaint without the persuasion of grief in its sorrow,—the strain of disquiet without the depth of emotion in its passion. Though the structure is good, the ideas are meagre, mannered, and wanting in freshness. From the rising of the curtain till the falling of the same, there is not one simple melody, as we understand the word,—but in its place a surfeit of phrases, the pattern of which suggests the idea of quotations from Mozart, diluted and disguised by the perpetual use of the *appoggiatura*. The repetition of well-beloved harmonies and cadences—the monotonous manner in which the voices are treated with reference to the orchestra (not the orchestra with reference to the voice)—become utterly cloying.—The perpetual unsettlement of chromatic modulation could not be pushed further, whether the singer be the Indian widow, her sister, her lover, or the Portuguese General—whether solitary or in concert.—Dr. Spohr has only one receipt for conducting *adagio* or *allegro*—lament or triumph-chant—to a close. Further, skilful and elaborate as is his instrumentation—about the neatest *marqueterie* (to venture a fantasy) that exists in Music,—it is never brilliant. We are forever fancying the climax about to come, which never arrives,—forever listening for some relief of variety to the ear, that never is administered. How dead and dull, in short, is the orchestral sound—how deficient in that life, without which there is no dramatic vitality,—the student will best ascertain by comparing (without reference to their respective ideas) the combat *finale* in Spohr's second act, to the *finale* in 'Don Juan,'—the 'Waffentanz' in the Portuguese camp, to any of Gluck's *airs de ballet*.—The impression, in short, of lassitude arising from want of dramatic impulse, want of interest in idea, and want of variety in treatment, became so complete as the opera went on, that in very impatience of work so carefully put together and thus apparently so good—but in reality so bad because devoid of invention—the ear at last began absolutely to think of Bellini's baldest union with toleration, and to escape from the sighing, dying closes of airs without tune, from passages without novelty, complications without force, and difficulties without effect—to such threadbare and comparatively flimsy pieces of display as Pacini's *rondo* from 'Niobe' or the delicious serenade from 'Don Pasquale.'—Rossini, of course, not coming into the comparison. Nay, as regards its composer's own operatic works, 'Jessonda' contains nothing which for freshness may compare with the introduction to 'Faust,'—for *cantilena* with the grand airs for *Cunigunda* and *Ugo* from the same opera,—for character with the song 'Va sbramando' of *Mephistopheles*,—for display of the voices with the favourite *terzett* from 'Zemire and Azor.'

The spirit of the above remarks must not be mistaken,—however imperatively we feel them called for, in aid of those who love in their pleasures to think, to class, and to know how it is they can be wearied, even if they love good music, by the work of a good musician.—The high finish and delicate humour of Addison's prose style do not make 'Cato' endurable as a stage-play. The acquirement, individuality, and consistency which Dr. Spohr displays in his instrumental compositions cannot enchant our ear into accepting a stage work so lugubrious, sickly, and mono-chromatic as the opera in question. Let it, however, be noted, to keep the balance true, that 'Jessonda' suffers from the hearer's familiarity with its composer's style. Possibly no classical writer ever existed whose peculiarities fall on the taste so rapidly as those of Dr. Spohr. There is, and there must be, a time with every amateur when his manner is felt to be seductive,—but to that, with many, succeeds a period when the entire mass of his music, marked as it is with one touch and one tone of colour, is listened to with a calmness not far from indifference as being mechanical and monotonous. The lukewarmness may be as unjust as the love was immoderate; but the sequence of one to the other remains a fact not to be avoided.

The performance was on the whole excellent. The orchestra was subdued into that temperance, delicacy, and sensitiveness which, as well as ripe mellowness of tone, are demanded to do justice to

Dr. Spohr's instrumentation. The chorus was less effective; but that is the fault of the writer, who, like other of the modern Germans, seems perseveringly to disdain attempting pure, which means sonorous, vocal composition. The singers were sure, though they could not make themselves interesting,—the best singing of the evening being Signor Belletti's. No ordinary credit, however, is due to Signor Luchesi for the perfect mastery acquired by him over music so entirely beyond his usual range. The impression made on the general audience appeared to be one of oppression, rather than excitement:—the opera, however, was repeated on Tuesday, and went off with greater spirit than on its first representation.

OLYMPIC.—Each new character performed by Mr. Robson becomes a topic of interest. On Monday, the farce of 'Boots at the Swan' was revived,—and the character of *Jacob Earwig*, the deaf shoeblack, was performed by him. That the performance would be excellent, might have been expected; but that it should have been so complete was, to us at the least, a surprise. Such an impersonation of a character so curious in minute points and so perfect in its general portraiture, is rare indeed. It was not only the manner in which extreme deafness was simulated, but that of the active intelligence substituted for it, as an undercurrent of a series of intellectual effects, that was admirable. Not a shade was omitted,—and each was nicely graduated and exactly fitted to its position. Nevertheless, it was not in these early scenes that the climax of the actor's talent was reached:—this was reserved for the situation in which, having undertaken to "sham being drunk," Jacob gets really drunk with a bottle of sherry, taking glass by glass at the footlights, until the bottle is empty, and after each marking the precise stage of inebriety attained. The flexibility of feature and adaptability of gesture to the mental purpose were perhaps never better exemplified. Whether the histrionic facility displayed was natural, or acquired by repeated practice, the result was equally wonderful in its ultimate relation to truth and its entire naturalness of expression. These were the great points of the performance:—in the minor ones, such as the mock importance of the assumed policeman, and the ready airs of the waiter whose office he fills for the nonce, the finished actor was apparent. It is long since the stage possessed a performer at once so thoroughly comic and thoughtfully artistic. Original humour, it is clear, Mr. Robson eminently possesses,—but the final effect is as clearly due to training which has left nothing to chance.

The audience at this theatre has become critical in regard to Mr. Talfourd's puns,—some of which are indebted for their peculiar effect to the "punitive" condition of their being excessively bad. At the performance of 'Shylock' on Monday evening, many of this class were received with a sort of tentative sibilation, some even with groans of disgust; but invariably the laugh, notwithstanding, succeeded,—all the louder for the contrary feeling over which it had triumphed. Greater lengths in this way have certainly been ventured in this burlesque than in any similar work within our remembrance; and yet the extravagant absurdity of more than one could not, as we thought at the time, have been exceeded. We trust, however, that the extravagance will be carried no further.

ADELPHI.—Advantage has been taken of the cab-strike to produce an agreeable little farce entitled 'What! no Cab.' The plot is supposed to occur on the celebrated Wednesday, July 27 ult., at 5 A.M., during the shower,—and represents the necessity of an amorous pair eloping, bag and baggage, on a wheelbarrow. A committee of cabbies at a public house is then presented, with Mr. Paul Bedford as Chairman;—but this scene was not, we think, so humorous as it might have been. The leaning of the dialogue is in favour of Cabby, and the public are represented as the only losers by the occurrence; Cabby himself making four times as much by his barrow as he had by his cab. The statistical fact is not exactly so,—and the fraternity

itself, if appealed to, would have to show the balance the other way.—We remark that the cast of 'Génévieve' has been altered; Miss Woolgar now performing the part of the heroine, and Mr. Leigh Murray that of *Lorin*. The former portrayed the suffering wife with an intensity of pathos that increased the usual effect of the part. The stage loses much by Miss Woolgar's versatile talents being generally employed in burlesque experiments;—it would gain greatly by her being permitted to practise in a more elevated line.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We are sorry to learn from *Cock's Musical Miscellany* for August, as well as from private information, that that thoroughly original friend and favourite of the public, Mr. John Parry, has bade farewell to public exhibition, being compelled by his health to retire long ere "his absence was desired." By his departure music and merriment sustain no ordinary loss; since (as the *Athenæum* has again and again pointed out) there was something besides, and far beyond, the ordinary buffoon in Mr. John Parry's performances,—a spirit of quaint humour told in, and aided by Music, nothing short of artistic, the like of which we have never met save perhaps in the comicalities of that eccentric genius, M. Vivier. It should be recorded, that Mr. John Parry's drolleries have been as delightful to the most scientific and most fastidious of musicians as to the general audiences that flocked to listen to "the accomplished young lady" and "Fair Rosamond," or to assist at the wondrous amateur singing and pianoforte playing so shrewdly and mirthfully reproduced in his later entertainments. Mr. John Parry's whimsies were started, if we mistake not, under the aid and by the abetting of Madame Malibran at Naples; but we have seen Mendelssohn sit to listen by the hour with the eager face of an enjoying child, and we have heard Chopin laugh till he was almost "ready to die" (so frail in his case was the machine) at the travesties, parodies, imitations, and *amphigouris*† of the racy humorist. If, indeed, Mr. John Parry must cease his performances, we trust that in some form or other we may still profit by a genius which is as delicate as it is genial.

The Directors for the next season elected at the Annual Meeting of the Philharmonic Society are Messrs. Griesbach, M'Murdie, Clinton, E. Schulz, Calkin and Anderson.

Our remarks on the desire of Londoners for an English Opera—not, by the way, an opera in *broken* English,—and their readiness to answer any call, be it made ever so fitfully, at even so undramatic a period of the year—provided, only, it promise fair entertainment,—receive a new illustration in Mr. Allcroft's experiment at the *Lyceum*, just announced; for which three performances by Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves are advertised. The operas to be given, however, are 'Fra Diavolo' and 'La Sonnambula.'—Meanwhile, Mr. Balfe's latest work, 'The Devil's in It,' is running its second season at the *Surrey Theatre*, during the operatic performances directed there by Miss Romer.—Lastly, a special season "for the performance of grand operas, for twelve nights only," is announced as about to commence at Drury Lane on Monday week,—with the new Madame Caradori, advertised as "the celebrated *prima donna* from La Scala," as leading lady.

It may be of use, as well as of interest, to call attention to a medical certificate published this day week by a contemporary, in which the recovery of Miss L. Pyne, from the illness which suddenly withdrew her from her profession in the midst of the concert season, is announced as complete and satisfactory.

'A Stepping Stone to Music,' by Miss Parkhurst, being one of a series of sixpenny manuals,

† For those whose business it has not been to make themselves familiar with art and artifice in all their forms, an explanation of the above word, which was popular enough in Paris some fifty years ago, may be needed. An "*amphigouri*" is not a "medley," according to the phraseology of Vauxhall and of Astley's, so much as a macaronic compound of music and words—of sense and jargon—of the sublime and the ridiculous—of the antique classical modes and the nonsense of the minute.

is handed over by the Reviewer to the Gossip, not because of its small price, but because of its small value, and because, professing as it does to be "adapted to the capacity of young children," it is neither good for tall nor for small pupils.—The questions and answers concerning the music of the Egyptians, the Jews, the Greeks, the Romans, and the first Christians, settle most disputed points of musical archaeology triumphantly. The Catechism concerning Italy, France, Germany, and England, is oracular rather than wise. The Dictionary of Musical Terms is incorrect: sometimes mixing two languages, as in "*Basso cantante*,"—sometimes erroneous in spelling, as in "*esempio*" for "*esempio*,"—sometimes slovenly in translation, as for instance, where "*calore*" is rendered "with animation." In place of "a Stepping-stone," we have many little stumbling-blocks; and the writer of this book needs to receive, rather than to offer, schooling.

During the lull of theatrical enterprise in London, rumour is ripe with announcements and guesses of future intentions. It is stated, that Mr. Smith will re-open Drury Lane in September, and has engaged Mr. G. V. Brooke for twenty-four nights; who will star there in his principal characters, and also produce, it is asserted, a new drama,—a translation, we believe, of 'Luther.'—The Princess's, it is said, will close in about a week or two; to re-open in the course of a fortnight after.—Sadler's Wells is making preparations for re-opening; and it is understood, that a spectacular revival of the 'Midsummer Night's Dream' is there intended. Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Fitzwilliam are engaged for six weeks' starting at Liverpool,—and Miss Glyn has a short engagement at Manchester. Meanwhile, the intended improvements at the Haymarket are commencing in real earnest,—and we hear of the acceptance of more than one poetic play. Mr. Buckstone has an advantage in the circumstance of his theatre being free to the admission of histrionic talent of the highest kind; so that, the leading parts of the drama may be as impartially and appropriately filled there as the secondary ones. We may, therefore, hope that some of the acknowledged talent now provincially errant may find its way to the metropolitan boards, on the stage of "the little theatre," and there be profitably and permanently engaged.

MISCELLANEA

The Passage of the Pruth.—At the present conjuncture the following Proclamation of Peter the Great, by which he raised Catharine to the throne of Russia, will probably be interesting to our readers; and the note thereto furnishes a striking lesson of what may happen to those who, with more ambition than prudence, cross the fatal Pruth. We have extracted them from a volume of Tracts published in London in 1729, and translated from the originals in the Slavonian and Russian languages by Thomas Consett, Chaplain to the British Factory in Russia. These two volumes of Tracts contain many other instructive and amusing subjects.—"We, Peter the First, Emperor and Sovereign of all Russia, &c. &c. &c. manifest to the people of the spiritual, military, civil, and of all other ranks our faithful subjects of the whole Russian nation. Whereas it is known to all that in all Christian kingdoms it is the constant custom of Potentates to crown their wives, and not only in these times, but anciently the most famous Grecian Emperors frequently did this: namely, the Emperor Basilus crowned his wife Zenobia; the Emperor Justinian, Lupitsea; the Emperor Heraclius, Martina; the Emperor Leo, his wife Maria; these all crowned their wives with the imperial diadem. And others did the same, which we think it needless on this occasion to instance more at large. And whereas it is well known, during a war of twenty-one years, that we underwent the most hazardous toil, and even exposed our person to the perils of death itself for our country's good; that by God's assistance we have put an end to the war, that Russia never before had seen so honourable and advantageous a peace, and in all their affairs never had so great a glory. In which our toils above written, our

beloved consort, the Sovereign Catharine, was a great aid and support, and not only herein, but in several military expeditions, without regard to the imbecility and tenderness of her sex, resolutely of her own accord was present with us, and gave us all possible assistance, especially in the battle with the Turks at the Prude† (where our army was only 22,000 and the Turks 270,000), in that critical juncture she behaved herself not like a woman but a man, whereof our whole army will witness and can testify to our whole empire. Wherefore, by virtue of the power we have from God to honour our Consort, for these her labours, with a coronation and crown, which, God willing, we purpose to effect at Moscow this present winter. This our intention we notify to all our faithful subjects, to favour whom we of our imperial grace are immutably inclined.

"Given at St. Petersburg, November the 15th, 1723, signed and subscribed with his Imperial Majesty's own hand.

(L. S.)

"PETER."

—Printed at St. Petersburg by the Senate, November 18, 1723.

Lowry's 'Table Atlas.'—It is only to-day that I have seen a notice in the *Athenæum* of July 30, page 917, of the Atlas of 'Penny Maps'; and in reference to that part of your criticism where you remark on their indifferent style of execution, and roughness of printing, I would beg to call your attention to a fact of which you may not have been aware,—that they are not printed from copper plates in the usual way, but are surface printed (like wood engravings),—being printed

† At this place, in 1711, by an over-hasty march with a part only of his army, and probably by some mistake in his intelligence, the Tsar was advanced too near the enemy, and presently surrounded and distressed by their great numbers, and thereby his provisions and succours being intercepted, he was reduced to the last extremity of want and despair. In this unhappy circumstance of his affairs, he made several strenuous efforts to extricate himself out of this difficulty, and his soldiers in a few small engagements gave the enemy a sufficient proof of their bravery; but being too sensible of the inequality of engaging such superior numbers with so small a force, and rather than expose his army to be inevitably destroyed by action, he thought it more advisable to save their lives by surrendering themselves prisoners of war, and himself took the resolution, with a small body, to force his own way through the enemy, in which attempt should he fall he had bound his arm with a white ribbon for distinction sake; but this was a resolution so desperate, that as it drew tears from all about him, so it made them think of every remedy and expedient rather than their Prince should run such a risk of his, whose preservation they all regarded themselves willing to ransom at the expense of their own lives and fortunes. And in this greatest emergency the thought very fortunately occurred to the Empress herself (then his mistress), and that was to bribe the Grand Vizier with a sum of money; which she no sooner proposed than it was approved and resolved upon, and a trumpeter sent to the Grand Vizier, who accepted the proposal, and came immediately to a treaty with the Tsar. It is said she had a great sum along with her in gold and jewels, which she had frugally hoarded up as the tokens of his royal favour, and that now, though sorry for the occasion, she expressed her joy to the Tsar that she was capable of making this application of them for his Majesty's service and preservation. It is certain her example and influence was so successful that a large collection was made in the army to answer the demands of the Grand Vizier; and by this public stratagem the Tsar and his army were happily delivered from the last misery and ruin. No sooner was the Tsar got out of this labyrinth, than in the face of the whole army he gratefully acknowledged her the author of his deliverance, and with due applauses for her undaunted courage and noble presence of mind in such an imminent danger he proclaimed her his wife and his children by her legitimate. And from this time the Tsar received and treated her as his Queen with all the honours and dignities of that character; and what was a singular and rare example to his people, with the most endearing and unblemished friendship and conjugal affection, and at length crowned her Empress, at Moscow, on the 7th of May, 1724, in pursuance of this Edict, notwithstanding some affairs of importance had intervened which detained the Tsar in Petersburg this winter, and occasioned this alteration of time prefixed for her coronation. And this was a redemption indeed to the Tsar, and a very fortunate deliverance in such an imminent danger, either of being made a prisoner or destroyed with all his forces, the consequences of which were yet bad enough, for he was obliged to quit the conquests he had made on the borders of the Tartars along the Euxine, who are all tributary to the Grand Seigneur, to surrender Asoph, which he had been in possession of near fifteen years, and therewith to lay aside all his hopes of carrying on a design of bringing a fleet into the Euxine, and to desist from opening the communication for that purpose betwixt the Don and the Volga at Camanka, and to leave his allies, the Wallachians and Moldavians, to the resentment of the Turks, for their intended revolt to the Tsar.

from casts taken from the original engravings by the glyphographic process; and it is to this process and the manner of printing combined that roughness and indistinctness are to be attributed. The utility of this method consists in rapidity and consequent cheapness of the printing, and it cannot be expected to equal in appearance the usual style of copper-plate printing. I am, &c.,

Aug. 10.

J. W. LOWRY.

New Gold-Crushing Machine.—An invention of extraordinary importance to Australia, and to all gold-producing countries, has, we are informed, just been imported from New York. This machine promises not merely to supersede all other crushing machines, but actually to nearly treble the value of the immense auriferous fields which have already yielded so rich a harvest. It is the invention of Mr. Berdan; who, in consequence of the unsatisfactory results produced by other machinery, sent two engineers to study the subject in California. It performs the various operations of washing, pulverizing, and amalgamating; and it comes to England with a well-certified character that promises to earn for it the attention at once of the scientific and of the mining world. It includes points of great novelty both mechanical and chemical. In the first place, the pulverizing mill is both novel and curious in its arrangement. It consists of a large iron basin revolving on an inclined axis, with an enormous ball of iron lying in its lower part, and having a curious spiral action given to it by simple and ingenious means. The chemical portion of the invention consists in the important discovery that amalgamation proceeds with greatly increased activity when heat is applied to the mixture. The third peculiarity of the machine is, that the amalgamation of the metals is effected at the moment of pulverization and beneath the surface out of the reach of oxidation. The ore after being roughly broken up is placed in the basin with the quicksilver,—fire is applied beneath and water above the mixture,—the mill reduces the quartz or sand to an impalpable powder,—the quicksilver instantly catches up the disengaged gold,—the water carries off the earthly particles, together with any impurities from the upper surface of the mercury,—and finally the amalgam is left pure and complete at the bottom of the basin. It is proved on good authority that the ordinary gold-digger does not secure more—frequently less—than one-quarter of the precious metal contained in the ore on which he works. He gets only the disengaged gold,—and loses all that is more ultimately blended with the matrix. It is also clearly proved that other machines now in use secure only about one-third of the gold. Mr. Berdan's pulverizer and amalgamator so completely exhausts the ore, that eminent chemists have been in several instances unable to detect the existence of gold in the residuum left by the new machine. Another and most decisive proof of the excellent working of this new machine is, that it has produced nearly twice as much gold from the "tailings," a rubbish left by other machines, as they had succeeded in extracting from the original ore. The facts are attested by the most respectable scientific and other journals of the United States; but the most decisive proof of the importance of Mr. Berdan's invention lies in the fact that the Directors of the Phoenix Gold Mining Company—the largest now at work in California—after an elaborate inquiry into the merits of the new machine, have reported decidedly in its favour,—setting aside all their other machinery to adopt, at a great expense, the new machine in all its workings.—Mr. Berdan has sold his patent right in the United States for the sum of 550,000 dollars, hard cash; and he brings his machine to England, where it is already patented, with the intention of disposing of the English right also. A model of the machine is to be seen at Messrs. Nourse & Co.'s, 17, Cornhill; and one of the actual machines is on its way hither. When it arrives the invention will be brought under the attention of the scientific men of this country.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—A British Subject—received.

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FAMILY ENDOWMENT LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY SOCIETY.

15, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London.

CAPITAL £500,000.

Directors.

William Butterworth Bayley, Esq. Chairman.

John Fuller, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

Lewis Burroughs, Esq. Edward Lee, Esq.

Robert Bruce Uchster, Esq. Colonel Ouseley, Esq.

Major Henderson, Esq. John Turner, Esq.

C. H. Lafouche, Esq. Joshua Walker, Esq.

THE BONUS for the present year is the same as that declared last year, viz.: Twenty per Cent. in reduction of the Premium to parties who have made Five Annual Payments or more on the Profit Scale.

Endowments and Annuities granted as usual.

INDIA BRANCH.

The Society has Branch Establishments at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

Tables of Rates, both English and Indian, can be had on application at the Office.

JOHN CAZENOVE, Secretary.

RELiance MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

THE ENTIRE PROFITS DIVIDED AMONG THE ASSURED.

Trustees.

Vernon Abbott, Esq. Leslie Melville, Esq.

John Ledger, Esq. James Trail, Esq.

George Whitmore, Esq.

ADVANTAGES PRESENTED BY THIS SOCIETY.

LIFE ASSURANCES may be effected upon *Equal, Half Premium, Increasing or Decreasing Scales*; also by *Single Payments, or Payments for limited periods*. Tables have been specially constructed for the ARMY, NAVY, EAST INDIA COMPANY, and MERCHANT SERVICES; also for persons voyaging to, or residing in, any part of the world.

N.B.—No charge for Policy Stamps.

E. OSBORNE SMITH, Actuary and Secretary.

71, King William-street, Mansion House.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

COMPANY, Established by Act of Parliament in 1834.

No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

The distinctive features of the Company embrace, amongst others—

Tables of Premiums formed on the lowest scale compatible with security, and constructed to meet the various wants of Assureds, and every risk to which protection by Assurance can be extended.

One-half the Life Premium for the first five years may remain on credit.

Loans granted on approved Personal Security.

Assured not restricted in their limits of travel, as in most other companies, but may proceed from one part of Europe to another in decked vessels, without Licence, and to British North America, and many parts of the United States, without extra premium, by merely giving the ordinary notice to the Office in London of the intended visit.

Whole-world Policies granted at slightly increased rates of Premium, thus rendering a Policy in money transactions a real security.

Prospectuses, and every information, may be obtained upon application to the Resident Director.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, containing full details as to its Progress and Present Position, and as to the First Division of Profits which has now been made.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Intending Life Assurers, and Policy-holders in other Companies, are invited to examine the Report, and to be satisfied of the soundness of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, the only Society in which the advantages of Mutual Assurance can be obtained at moderate premiums.

Since its establishment in 1837 it has issued upwards of 6,000 Policies, covering Assurances exceeding £200,000, a result the more satisfactory as no indiscriminate Commission has been paid for it. The whole regulations and administration of the Society are as liberal as is consistent with safety and right principle.

Every information afforded, either personally or by letter, on application to GEORGE GRANT, Resident Secretary.

London Branch, 15, Moorgate-street.

MANCHESTER AND LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

77, King-street, Manchester; 454, West Strand, London.

The business of this Association is that of—

1. Life and Survivorship risks of every description—civil, naval, or military.

2. Loans on equitable terms, life assurance being contemporaneously effected, on approved personal or any other sufficient security.

3. Assurance upon half-credit scale of rates.

4. Endowments for children, on non-returnable or returnable premiums.

5. Policies payable to bearer.

6. Whole world policies, being perfect securities, payable to bearer or otherwise, at moderate additional rates.

7. Policies without extra rates, persons in the militia or others, not forfeited if killed in defending the country from invasion.

8. Notices of the assignment of policies registered.

9. Medical referrers paid by this Association.

10. Age of the life assured admitted on all policies, reasonable proof being given.

Stamps duty on policies paid by the Association.

Four-fifths, or 80 per cent., divided, every five years, amongst all policy holders entitled to profits.

CHARLES HENRY MINCHIN, Secretary, Manchester.

WILLIAM JAMES STRICKLAND, Actuary and Secretary, London.

THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

39, King-street, Chancery—Established 1834.

NOTICE TO NEW ASSURERS, July 6, 1853.—In consequence of the great reduction of stamps by the new Stamp Duties Act, the directors have decided not to charge the policy stamps on policies issued after this date.

Assurances in force June 30, 1853, £287,000.

Income, £40,500 per annum.

The entire profits are annually divided amongst the members, in proportion to the premiums paid, accumulated at compound interest. The effect of this mode of division will be seen in the following table:

Year when effected.	Age when admitted.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Additional Premiums.	Equivalent Reduced Premiums.
			1852 1853	1852	1853
1854	25	1,000	30 4 0	323 338	16 4 0
"	30	2,000	71 3 0	252 366	41 9 5
"	35	3,000	104 0 0	192 507	61 11 12
"	40	4,000	136 0 0	152 507	36 9 0

SAMUEL BROWN, Actuary.

THE ACHILLES ASSURANCE COMPANY

FOR LIFE, FIRE, LOANS, AND ANNUITIES.

Directors.

Sir HENRY WINSTON BARRON, Bart. Chairman.

Col. LOTHIAN S. DICKSON, Deputy-Chairman.

Adolphus Baker, Esq. J. Bishop Culpeper.

David Birrell, Esq. Henry Francis Howe.

Thomas H. Burrell, Esq. William Vardy, Esq.

William Court, Esq. James Coleman, Esq.

Edward Miall, Esq. M.P.

Insurance may be effected in the Achilles Company in any way, or for any purpose most convenient to the assured.

The following are the Rates of Premium on the class of Policies most generally taken out.

Annual Premium for the Assurance of £100, for the whole of Life with Profits:—

Age.....	25	35	45	55	65
Annual	£ 2 6	£ 2 4	£ 3 14	£ 5 10	£ 8 16

Premiums may be paid Quarterly, Half-yearly, or Annually.

Annuities, Immediate and Deferred, granted on equitable terms.

Loans granted to Policy-holders, real and personal security, and to enable them to purchase their own houses. A Policy of Insurance required to the amount only of the sum borrowed.

Copulations, forth of this mode of Premium, and every other information, may be obtained at the Company's Office.

25, Cannon-street, City. HUGH TAPLIN, Secretary.

VICTORIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

18, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY. Established 1838.

Directors.

Thomas Nesbitt, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

Charles Baldwin, Esq. W. K. Jameson, Esq.

George Denny, Esq. John Knill, Esq.

J. C. Dimdale, Esq. John Nollott, Esq.

J. P. Gassiot, Esq. F.R.S. Charles Phillips, Esq.

Aaron Goldsmid, Esq. Daniel Sutton, Esq.

Sidney Gurney, Esq. O.B. Bellingham Woolley, Esq.

The business of the Company embraces every description of risk connected with Life Assurance. Premiums moderate, payable quarterly, half-yearly, or otherwise.

Credit is given of one-third of the Premiums till death, or half the Premiums for five years, on Policies taken out for the whole of life.

Residence in most of the Colonies allowed without payment of any extra Premium, and the rates for the East and West Indies are particularly favourable to Assurers.

Great facilities given for the Assignment or Transfer of Policies.

Loans are made on Mortgage of Freeholds, Leaseholds, and Life Interests, and to Assurers, with unexceptionable PERSONAL SECURITIES.

Four-fifths or 80 per cent. of the entire Profits are appropriated to the Assurers on the Profit Scale.

Attention is particularly requested to the new Prospectus just issued.

WILLIAM RATHAY, Actuary.

LOANS, on Personal or other approved Security.

—Persons desirous of obtaining ADVANCES under the most favourable terms, and repayable by easy instalments extending over a lengthened period, are invited to JOIN THE BRITISH MUTUAL SUBSCRIPTION LOAN ASSURANCE CLASSES, established in connection with the London & Lancashire Life Office.—Prospectuses, Report, and every information may be obtained on application at the British Mutual Life Office, 17, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Rules of each of the above Mutual Life Offices.

CHARLES JAMES THICKE, Secretary.

THE WESTMINSTER AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

At the Westminster Fire Office, 27, King-street, Covent-garden, London.

Established 1838.

Trustees.

George Dodd, Esq. Colonel W. H. Meyrick.

Joseph William Thrupp, Esq.

This Association offers to Assure the security of an ample Guaranteed Capital, besides a large Fund invested in the Public Stocks and on Mortgages, being the accumulation of premiums already received on Assurances.

The rates of premium hereunder stated have been re-calculated, and are precisely adjusted to the risk of the Assurance undertaken by the Office, and are as low as is consistent with security.

Eight-tenths of the profits of the Association are divided every Five Years among the holders of Policies in the participating class of assurances.

The additions made to the sums assured by Policies which have participated in the three divisions of profit declared 1842, 1847, and 1852, have averaged one-half of the premiums paid on them.

The assured may proceed to and reside in any part of Europe, without giving notice to the Association, or paying any extra premium.

Every restrictive condition of assurance not absolutely necessary for the security of the Association has been withdrawn from the policy.

Loans advanced on the security of policies after two premiums have been paid on them.

Premiums may be paid Yearly, Half-yearly, or Quarterly.

Every information on the subject of Life Assurance can be obtained on application at the Office.

Annual Premiums for the Assurance of 100l., for the whole term of Life:—

Age.	With Profits.	Age.	Without Profits.
20	£1 17 4	30	£2 14 7
30	2 8 10	40	3 5 4
40	3 5 0	50	3 0 4
50	4 10 0	60	4 0 0
60	7 4 8	70	6 14 2

W. M. BROWN, Actuary.

Agents required in the principal Country Towns.

A POST-OFFICE SAVINGS' BANK.

BIRKBECK LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Act of Parliament. Capital, 100,000l. in 100,000 shares at 1l. each. Offices, 8, Moorgate-street.

President—The Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle.

Lord Dudley Corbett Stuart, M.P. Douglas Jerrold, Esq.

This Company, which is now represented in all the important Mercantile Institutes of the country, transacts the business of Life Assurance, Sick Benefits, Annuities, and Emigration, and other small Loans.

By the peculiar system of this Company, the working classes will be enabled to invest their Savings in the Investment Fund, through the medium of the Post-office, and to secure in this way a much greater profit than is earned by Savings Banks. Deposits of not less than Two Shillings and Sixpence are received daily at the Office, and may be remitted from the country, when the sum is under 1l. in postage stamps; and above this sum in the form of a Post-office Order, made payable to Mr. GEORGE COLE, the Secretary, at the General Post-office. In return for all deposits Stock Vouchers are issued.

Depositors may withdraw half their deposits at three months' notice, and the remainder after six months' notice; but the Directors will be ready at all times to advance the sum deposited on request for immediate advances on their stock vouchers—hereby giving to the Investment Branch of the Company's plan the character of a safe and highly remunerative mode of investing money.

W. H. LANGLIFF JERROLD, Acting Director.

Forms for Life Assurance, Annuities, Loans, and Investments, may be had on application at the Office, No. 8, Moorgate-street, City.

ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

28, THROGMORTON-STREET, BANK; and 14, PALL MALL.

THOMAS FARNCOMB, Esq. Alderman, Chairman.

WILLIAM LEAF, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

Richard E. Arden, Esq. J. Humphrey, Esq. Ald.

Edward Bates, Esq. Rupert Ingley, Esq.

Thomas Camplin, Esq. Thomas Kelly, Esq. Ald.

James Clift, Esq. Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.

Lewis Pocock, Esq.

Physician—Dr. Jefferson, 5, Finsbury-square.

Surgeon—W. Coulson, Esq. 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

Consulting Actuary—Professor Hall, M.A. of King's College.

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY.

The premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security.

The Assured are protected by a large subscribed capital—an assurance fund of £50,000, invested on mortgages, and the Government stocks—and an income of 77,000l. a year.

Premiums to Assure £100.

Whole Term.

Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	£1 17 8	£19 11	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 18	12 7	2 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 8 4	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	2 17 0	6 15 9	6 10 10

Mutual Branch.

Assurers on the Bonus system are entitled, at the end of five years, and afterwards annually, to participate in four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the profits. The profit assigned to each Policy can be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or be received in cash. At the first division the return of 30 per cent. in cash on the premiums paid was declared; this will allow a permanent reduction in the future annual payments for life from 31 to 11 per cent., according to the age, and a reversionary increase varying from 66 to 88 per cent. on the premiums, or from 1 to 3 per cent. on the sum assured. One-half of the "Whole Term" Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice. Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved. Loans upon approved security. The Medical Officers attend every day at Throgmorton-street, at a quarter before 5 o'clock.

E. BATES, Resident Director.

ASYLUM-LIFE OFFICE, 72, Cornhill, London.
Founded 1884, for Invalid and Healthy Lives, Naval and other Officers, Voyagers, Travellers, and Residents abroad.

Chairman—Sir James Law Lushington, G.C.B.
Deputy-Chairman—Charles William Harcourt, Esq.

TERM-TO-TERM scales commencing and progressing at rates which are just measures of the annual risk at the age during the currency of the term, securing for the small premium paid should really command, founded on the relative chances of death from year to year, without fresh examination of health.

Address.—GEORGE FARREN, Esq., Resident Director.

ELKINGTON and CO.,
PATENTERS OF THE ELECTRO PLATE.
MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c.
Respectfully urge upon Purchasers to observe that each article bears their Patent Mark, "E. & CO. under a crown," as no others are warranted by them.

The fact frequently set forth of articles being plated by "Elkington's Process," affords no guarantee of the quality, as numerous manufacturers are licensed by them to use the Process, but without restriction in the mode of manufacture, the metal employed, or the thickness of silver deposited thereon. These productions were honoured at the late Great Exhibition by an award of the "Council Medal," and may be obtained at either Establishment,
22, REGENT-STREET, } LONDON,
42, MOORGATE-STREET, }
NEWALL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free by post.
Replating and Gilding as usual.

DENT'S PATENT CHRONOMETERS,
CLOCKS, WATCHES, and MARINER'S COMPASS.
—FREDERICK DENT, Clockmaker to the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince of Wales, begs to announce that, under the will of the late E. J. Dent, he has succeeded exclusively to all his patent rights and business, at 61, Strand, 34, Royal Exchange, and the Turret Clock and Compass Factory, at Somerset-wharf, Strand.

THE BEST SHOW OF IRON BEDSTEADS
in the KINGDOM is WILLIAM S. BURTON'S. He has added to his show of IRON and STEEL BEDSTEADS, which are devoted to the EXCLUSIVE SHOW of Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Children's Cots with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses. Common Iron Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to 15s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 15s. 6d. to 20s. 6d.; Handsome Ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 22s. 6d. to 125s. 6d.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the Shop, devoted solely to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Wares), so arranged and classified that Purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues with Engravings sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.
30, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); Nos. 1 & 2, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

PRIZE MEDAL TO CAISTON'S SADDLES
(MILITARY AND PARK) and HARNESS.
SADDLERY, Harness, Horse Clothing, Blankets, Brushes, Sponges, and every other Stable Requisite. Outfits for India, Africa, Cash, from 20s. to 200s. per cent. below those usually charged for credit. Materials, Workmanship, and Style not to be surpassed. A detailed list will be sent free by post, or may be had on application at CAISTON'S, 10, Baker-street, Portman-square, where the Exhibition Saddles and Harness may be seen.

OSLERS' TABLE GLASS, CHANDELIERS,
LUSTRES, &c. 44, Oxford-street, London, conducted in connection with their Manufactory, Broad-street, Birmingham. Established 1867. Richly cut and engraved. Beautiful and great variety. Wine Glasses, Water Jugs, Goblets, and all kinds of Table Glass at exceedingly moderate prices. Crystal Glass Chandeliers, of new elegant designs, for Gas or Candles. A large stock of Foreign Ornamental Glass always on hand. Fulfilling orders executed with despatch.

THE SHUN DESTROYS A GOOD CARPET.
—A few shillings expended on INDIA MATTING will prevent this, and add greatly to comfort during the heat of summer. A large assortment, in every width and variety of pattern, now on hand, very much below the usual prices, at TRELOAR'S India Matting Warehouse, 42, Ludgate-hill, London.

OXLEY & CO.'S ASBESTOS FILTER, enlarged. Price 3s. each; small size, 15s. TAYLOR & PEAR'S, 8, George-yard, Lombard-street. Twenty Gallons of pure Water per diem. All mineral and noxious matters entirely separated by this process. See *Lancet*, and all the standard journals, as to the value of Asbestos in filtration.

THE WALLISIAN UMBRELLA, DRESS
CANE, and WALKING-STICK EMPORIUM.—Every variety of choice is kept in stock. Ladies' Silk Umbrellas at 10s. 6d.; Gentlemen's ditto, 12s. 6d.; excellent Gingham ditto, 2s.; Carriage umbrellas, &c. Dress Cane, silver mounted, with ivory hooks, commencing at 2s. 6d.—Observe the address, 363, Strand, near Exeter Hall.

DAVIES'S CANDLES, 64d. per lb.; moulds, 74d.; composite, 8d., 9d., and 10d.; botanical wax, 12s.; sperm, 12s. 7d. and 12s. 8d.; palm-oil metallic, 4d.; margarine, 9d.; argand oil, 4s. 6d. per gallon; French, 4s.; solar, 4s. 9d.; sperm, 4s.; Windsor soap, 1s. 3d. per packet; brown Windsor, 1s. 5d.; rose, 2s.; almond, 2s. 4d.; yellow soap, 4s. 4d. and 4s. per 12lb.; 12lb. mottled soap, 50s., for cash.—At M. P. DAVIES & SON'S old-established warehouse, 63, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA, an excellent Remedy for Acidities, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion; assmild Aperient, it is admirably adapted for Females and Children.—DINNEFORD & CO., Dispensing Chemists, 172, New Bond-street. (General Agents for the Improved Horse Hair Gloves and Belts.)

DO YOU BRUISE YOUR OATS YET?
One bushel of Oats crushed will nearly make two immense mowing and important improvement of the animal. Oat-bushes, Chaff-cutters, Floughs, Threshing Machines, Domestic Flour Mills, Light Carts, Mowing Tools, Brick and Tile ditto, Corn-dressing ditto, Horse and Steam Machinery put up, &c. Repairs done.—M. WEDLAKE & CO., 118, Fenchurch-street. Pamphlet on Feeding 12d. List, with nearly 300 illustrations, 12s. per post, each 12s. 4d.

A NEW DISCOVERY IN TEETH.
MR. HOWARD, SURGEON-DENTIST, 52, FLEET-STREET, has introduced an ENTIRELY NEW DESCRIPTION OF ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They are hand-made, resemble the natural teeth, as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful.
52, FLEET-STREET.—At home from Ten till Five.

HODGSON'S IMPROVED PORTABLE
PENS are particularly recommended to those who cannot write with metal ones. They are hand-made from quills, and of different degrees of hardness, to suit all writers. Price, in boxes of 100, 4s., or free by return of post for 50 stamps.—Hodgsons, Stationers, 9, Great Marylebone-street, London.

THE BEST FIT WEARS BEST.
Butly that habit as his purse can buy, but not gaudy—
For the apparel oft proclaims the man.—*Shakespeare.*
THE BEST CLOTH GIVES THE MOST WEAR.
Nearly 1,500 well-dressed Gentlemen can attest that these facts are daily accomplished by the principal Tailors at 73, Cornhill.
Note the Number, Seventy-three.

HEAL & SON'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF BEDSTEADS, sent free by post. It contains Descriptions of the various kinds of Bedsteads, and of the different Bedsteads; also of every description of Bedding, Blankets, and Quilts. And their new warrens enable them to keep one Bedstead of each design fixed for inspection, so well as an extensive assortment of Bed-room Furniture, Furnishings, Chaises, Damasks, and Dimities, so as to render their Establishment complete for the general furnishing of Bed-rooms.
HEAL & SON, Bedstead and Bedding Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham Court-road.

HOUSE FURNISHING, DECORATIVE,
and PAPER-HANGING ESTABLISHMENT, 431, Oxford-street, London.—E. T. ARCHER respectfully calls attention to his very large assortment of every description of articles intended for use or ornament—in the cottage to the mansion—kilns, damasks, chintzes, carpets, and cabinet furniture of the latest Fashions and design. In the PAPER-HANGING and PANNELLING will be found the designs of the best artists of the past and present time. Foreign papers of the best fabric.—Manufactory, Royal Steam Mills, Wandsworth, Surrey.

METCALFE & CO.'S NEW PATTERN
TOOTH BRUSH & PENETRATING HAIR BRUSHES.
—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose. An Improved Clothes Brush, incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most successful manner. Smyrna Sponges.—By means of direct importations, Metcalfe & Co. are enabled to secure to their customers the lowest of a Genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE, BINGLEY & CO.'S Sole Establishment, 120, N. Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by other houses.
METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER, 2s. per box.

INFANTS' NEW FEEDING BOTTLES.
From the *Lancet*.—"We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the nursing bottles introduced by Mr. Elam, of Oxford-street. They are adapted to milk, biscuits, and all kinds of food, are the most perfect 'artificial mother' ever invented, have an elastic soft nipple, very cleanly and durable, which no infant will refuse, and whether fed by the breast, or by hand, or occasionally feeding, are quite unrivalled.—BENJAMIN ELAM, 196, Oxford-street.—7s. 6d. Each is stamped with my name and address. Beware of imitations."

THE TEA DUTY IS NOW REDUCED,
and we are enabled to sell Prime Congou Tea at 2s. per lb.; The best Congou Tea at 3s. 4d.; Rich rare Souchong Tea at 3s. 4d.; Good Green Tea at 2s. 6d.; 3s. 6d.; Prime Green Tea at 4s.; and Delicious Green Tea at 5s.

We strongly recommend our friends to buy Tea at our present prices, as Teas are getting dearer. Those who purchase now will save much by buying of us.
The best PLANTATION COFFEE is now 1s. per pound. The best Mocha 1s. 4d.

Teas, Coffees, and all other goods, sent carriage free, by our own vans and carts, if within eight miles; and Teas, Coffees, and Spices sent carriage free to any part of England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

PHILLIPS & COMPANY,
TEA AND COLONIAL MERCHANTS,
No. 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET,
CITY, LONDON.

A General Price Current Free by Post on Application.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.
—THE REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced 20 years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington & Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

	Ten Spoons, per dozen	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread King's Pattern.
Desert Forks	30s.	30s.	30s.
Desert Spoons	40s.	40s.	40s.
Table Forks	40s.	40s.	40s.
Table Spoons	40s.	40s.	40s.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.
CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread King's Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per doz.	30s.	30s.
Desert ditto ditto	20s.	20s.
Tea ditto	10s.	10s.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has TEN LARGE SHOW ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the shop, devoted solely to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Wares, Iron and Brass Bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.
Catalogues with Engravings sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.
30, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); Nos. 1 and 2, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

BRIGHTON SELTZER WATER, 4s. a dozen.
—Mr. HOOPER has reduced his price for BRIGHTON SELTZER WATER from 4s. per dozen to 3s. 6d. per dozen. VICHY and other celebrated Waters in proportion, and which are unsurpassed if not unequalled. Six-dozen hampers carriage free. BOTTLES and FILLS supplied in such quantities only as may be required. Delivery twice daily. Free of duty. Wholesale and Retail can be had on application.—Hooper, 7, Pall Mall East, and 65, Grosvenor-street, Bond-street.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR is far superior to Eau de Cologne as a Lotion for the Toilet or Bath, a reviving Scent, and a powerful Disinfectant. Price 2s. 6d. Sold by all Perfumers and Chemists; and by E. RIMMEL, 30, Gerrard-street, Soho.

A CLEAR COMPLEXION.
GODFREY'S EXTRACT OF ELDER
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